

CITY OF SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA

2023 Executive and Legislative Platform



An executive and legislative platform, approved by the City Council, enables City of Santa Clarita elected officials and staff to act quickly in reaching out to legislators, executive branch elected officials, and legislative, administrative, or regulatory staff in communicating the City's interests at the federal and state levels of government. The components within the 2023 Executive and Legislative Platform are primarily based upon positions previously adopted by the City Council.

The Santa Clarita City Council establishes the City of Santa Clarita's official policy position on all legislative, administrative, and regulatory matters with which the City is involved.

Position statements regarding legislative, administrative, regulatory, and other matters for which City Council established policy exists may be communicated by the City Manager or designated staff to legislators, legislative staff, administration officials, administrative staff, regulatory board members, and other entities, as appropriate, reflecting the City Council's adopted policy.

For those matters in which no City Council policy exists, bills and other legislative, administrative, or regulatory matters will be brought to the City Council Legislative Committee for a recommendation to the full City Council. These matters may also be brought directly to the City Council, upon the request of the Council or in the event that timeliness of action by the City Council is required.

The purpose of the Santa Clarita 2023 Executive and Legislative Platform is to outline the position of the City Council on priority issues and matters that impact the City's ability to operate effectively. City staff will monitor federal and state legislation, and administrative or regulatory proposals; taking appropriate action when required in compliance with the adopted Legislative Platform in order to safeguard and/or advance the City's interests in Washington, D.C. and Sacramento.

The statements outlined below are intended to assist the City Council and City staff to efficiently and appropriately address proposed legislation, administrative, or regulatory actions to promote City interests and protect local authority, as necessary.

FEDERAL

1. Support legislation seeking to implement the Rim of the Valley Corridor Special Resource Study; containing boundary adjustments that include portions of the Santa Clarita Valley, but does not eliminate or limit current authority of the City of Santa Clarita.
2. Support funding opportunities to be used toward the construction and long-term management of the Saint Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial and National Monument.
3. Support infrastructure legislation and direct grant funding to local governments for a federal investment in transportation, water resources, housing, and community development.
4. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, administrative actions, or public health orders to allow and support businesses that have been forced to limit or close their operations, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to responsibly reopen and operate to the capacity that will safely initiate the economic recovery process.
5. Support legislation, administrative proposals, or grant opportunities that will secure funding for Santa Clarita's emergency management services and pre-disaster mitigation funding, including resources to assist with wildfire mitigation.
6. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or grant applications that will bring program flexibility and funding beneficial to the City of Santa Clarita under legislation, reauthorizing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
7. Oppose legislation that limits or eliminates local discretionary review of the installation of small cell wireless equipment or any wireless technology facilities on public infrastructure or in the public right of way.

8. Oppose regulatory efforts by Congress or the Federal Communications Commission to erode, limit, or eliminate local government authority regarding siting of cellular communications towers, transmission sites, or other infrastructure.
9. Support legislation that enables local governments to enact ordinances or exercise regulatory authority governing residential recovery facilities, including, but not limited to, drugs and alcohol.
10. Support legislation to increase funding for, creating enhancements to, or expanding the boundaries of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.
11. Work with Members of Congress regarding issues related to the potential legislative establishment of a Castaic Wilderness area.
12. Support legislation and grant opportunities that will preserve or increase funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and HOME Investment Partnerships Program.
13. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or administrative efforts that provide additional authority or direct funding for municipalities to address homelessness issues within their communities.
14. Support legislation or grant opportunities for local governments that provide funding for development or enhancing alternative fueling stations for vehicles.
15. Support legislation, administrative proposals, or grant opportunities that will increase funding for Santa Clarita's community services; including, but not limited to, funding for local law enforcement Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and enhanced Justice Assistance Grants (JAG).
16. Support legislation, administrative actions, or regulatory proposals ensuring that contract cities for law enforcement services are treated equally with municipalities providing full service or in-house law enforcement services.
17. Support legislation or funding opportunities for development of a community arts center.
18. Support funding opportunities to be used toward the operation or programming of the Santa Clarita Valley Senior Center.
19. Support incentives and programs utilized by states and local governments designed to keep filming within the United States, and in particular, California.

20. Work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to secure updated community flood maps and mitigation funding.
21. Oppose the imposition of unfunded or less-than-fully-funded mandates on local governments.

STATE

1. Oppose legislation that would interfere with, limit, or eliminate the decision-making authority of municipalities in the area of local land use.
2. Support legislative efforts to address the negative impacts of AB 109, Proposition 47, and Proposition 57 on local governments and provide local law enforcement with the appropriate tools to reduce criminal activity.
3. Oppose legislation, regulatory proposals, special directives, or administrative actions that preempt judicial discretion in the review and sentencing of misdemeanors and felonies, including the issuance of bail.
4. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or administrative actions to accelerate the development and implementation of enhanced electrical utility infrastructure, including undergrounding of utility equipment, that ensures reliable utility service and public safety and prevents the use of public safety power shutoffs.
5. Support legislation that would increase local involvement in the review and petition of a person's parole.
6. Oppose legislation or regulatory action that seeks to limit or eliminate municipal authority to regulate or ban commercial growing, processing, licensing, sale, or transport of cannabis or cannabis products for recreational or medical use.
7. Support legislation that authorizes a local agency the authority to regulate the delivery of cannabis or cannabis products within its jurisdictional boundaries.
8. Oppose legislation that proposes to convert the Regional Housing Need Assessment (RHNA) from a planning process to a production standard.
9. Oppose legislation that penalizes a city or local government if the units identified in the RHNA are not constructed.

10. Support legislation that authorizes a local agency to receive RHNA credit for the conversion of above-moderate income units to moderate-income or below moderate-income units.
11. Support legislation that seeks to revise the formula for allocating vehicle license fee adjustment amounts to restore revenues to cities that have annexed developed areas.
12. Support legislation to authorize state funding to assist local agencies in the development of affordable housing, infrastructure, and economic development projects.
13. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, administrative actions, or public health orders to allow and support businesses that have been forced to limit or close their operations, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to responsibly reopen and operate to the capacity that will safely initiate the economic recovery process.
14. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or administrative actions that require a public health order issued by the State or County of Los Angeles, during the COVID-19 pandemic State of Emergency, to be based on local data and input, rather than on statewide or countywide data.
15. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or administrative actions that end the State of Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
16. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, administrative actions, or public health orders that authorize a COVID-19 vaccine exemption for children ages 5 to 11 for religious or medical purposes.
17. Oppose legislation that seeks to impose district-based voting systems in municipal elections or otherwise mandates specific actions for municipalities to implement when challenged regarding compliance with the California Voting Rights Act.
18. Oppose legislation that removes or limits the authority of local jurisdictions to determine how best to comply with provisions of the California Voting Rights Act.
19. Support legislation that provides more transparency and contact between mobilehome park owners and residents; particularly in the areas of mobilehome park owner/tenant relations, conversion of senior parks to family parks, mobilehome lease agreements, mobilehome rent adjustments, and mobilehome park maintenance and evictions.

20. Support legislation that requires local government consultation and approval before the State of California may issue approval or permits in a manufactured housing community, which, were it not for preemptive state jurisdiction, would otherwise require local government review and approval.
21. Oppose legislation that changes the composition of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors (Metro), resulting in a reduction of Santa Clarita's representation or influence with the Board of Directors.
22. Oppose legislation that seeks to circumvent local control and local circumstances when addressing homelessness.
23. Support legislation, regulatory, or administrative efforts that provide additional authority or funding for municipalities to address homeless issues within their communities.
24. Support legislation, administrative proposals, or grant opportunities that will secure funding for Santa Clarita's emergency management services and pre-disaster mitigation funding, including resources to assist with wildfire mitigation, with the California Office of Emergency Services.
25. Oppose legislation, regulatory proposals, or administrative actions to limit or eliminate local government authority or mandate by-right approvals relative to the siting or modification of telecommunications equipment or infrastructure, including small cell wireless and fiber equipment.
26. Oppose legislation that limits or eliminates local discretionary review of the installation of small cell wireless equipment or any wireless or broadband technology facilities on public infrastructure or in the public right of way.
27. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or administrative actions to assure timely reimbursements of mandated reimbursements owed to the City of Santa Clarita by the State of California.
28. Support legislation that maintains or enhances the City's ability to keep and protect existing state and local funding sources providing revenues to the City of Santa Clarita.
29. Oppose legislation that limits local control of municipal public services or imposes new financial burdens.
30. Support legislation that provides greater stability and security of the California Public Employees Retirement System.

31. Take an active approach on legislation, regulatory proposals, or other actions regarding the proposed California High-Speed Rail Authority project. Oppose alignment proposals that are not fully underground within the Palmdale to Burbank project section or otherwise negatively impact Santa Clarita residents and the community.
32. Oppose legislation that would infringe upon the authority of local governments to effectively administer and consider unique local circumstances when processing permits and enforcing building and safety standards.
33. Oppose legislation that seeks to limit or eliminate municipal authority to regulate street or sidewalk vendors.
34. Support legislation requiring transparency in the state licensing requirements for alcohol and drug residential rehabilitation or recovery facilities on par with public noticing requirements for group home facilities.
35. Oppose legislation that seeks to limit or eliminate municipal authority to permit, regulate, or prohibit shared mobility devices.
36. Support legislation that provides local governments with a role in regulating the location of state licensed alcohol or drug recovery facilities.
37. Support legislation that will preserve or enhance the tools, incentives, and programs utilized by local governments and the state that will promote filming in California.
38. Advocate for measures that support the City's continued efforts to retain and promote the growth or expansion of local businesses.
39. Support legislation, regulatory proposals, or grant opportunities for local governments that provide funding for developing or enhancing alternative fueling stations for vehicles.
40. Support legislation or funding opportunities for development of a community arts center.
41. Support legislative and regulatory efforts to ensure Santa Clarita receives its fair share of transportation revenue; based upon appropriate population statistics or proportionate to transportation tax dollars generated in the City and increase funding for local transportation, transit programs, and projects.

42. Oppose legislation that would prohibit or limit local governments' ability to contract out for the provision of services.
43. Oppose legislation that mandates local governments provide specific benefits to employees or removes or limits local authority to determine the level of benefits to be provided to employees.
44. Support measures that provide funding to local agencies for training, effective disaster preparedness, sheriff's station infrastructure, homeland security, and emergency planning.
45. Support legislation, regulations, or administrative actions ensuring all cities, including contract cities, have equal access to funding which increases public safety services.
46. Support legislation, regulations, or administrative actions ensuring all cities, including contract cities, have equal access to funding for parks, recreation, and open space.
47. Support legislation and administrative actions that protect the ability for a local government to preserve open space in and around a local government's jurisdiction.
48. Monitor and influence legislation or other actions related to the reasonable management of water, consistent with being good water stewards, and oppose policies that outright prohibit local water accessibility.
49. In partnership with the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District, work with state legislators and administration officials in seeking funding to continue reduction of self-regenerating water softeners and/or provides funding for the chloride compliance project.
50. Support legislation that enhances transparency in the decision-making process of the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
51. Support full funding of the state's obligation to support local public libraries pursuant to existing formulas established in the state's education code.
52. Support legislation that directs a portion of Cap-and-Trade funds toward local transportation projects, excluding additional funds for high-speed rail.
53. Support legislation that increases penalties for possession of date rape drugs with the intention of committing sexual assault.
54. Oppose the imposition of unfunded or inadequately funded state mandates.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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The Santa Clarita City Council adopted the 2023 Executive and Legislative Platform on December 13, 2022.