



TO: SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FROM: JEFF KIERNAN, REGIONAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGER,
LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES®
RE: UPDATE FOR MEETING ON JULY 23, 2020 *(prepared 7/15/2020)*

All 482 California Cities Submit Applications for State Allocations of CARES Act Funds

Now that the State Budget is passed, the South Bay Cities (excluding the City of Los Angeles) are poised to receive \$9.4 million in CARES Act funds from the State with 1/6th of the total amount is expected to be sent directly to the cities by the State Controller before the end of July.

The League hosted a webinar with the Department of Finance (DOF) on July 14 to answer questions about those funds and how they can be used. The slides and a recording of that webinar is available at www.cacities.org/coronavirus. The Federal Government has not provided many answers or guidance since they passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), but the League will continue to work with DOF on city questions and hopes to collaborate on an FAQ document to make sure that these dollars are spent before the December 30 deadline. Questions can be sent to can be sent to cfapplications@dof.ca.gov with a cc to covid-19@cacities.org.

Participants on the DOF webinar were polled in real time and 42% indicated that they had likely already spent their total share of the CARES Act funds. The League anticipated that the State's allocation of \$500 million in CARES Act funds are likely just a drop in the bucket to the real need, so we are continuing to lobby our Federal representatives in Congress for another stimulus package. Ideally, these funds would be secured before the California Constitutional deadline for the end of session on August 31. If not, the Governor will need to call a special (lame duck) legislative session between the November election and the end of the year to address any budget changes and new allocations.

Legislature Delay's Return After Two Legislators Test Positive for COVID-19

The Legislature was forced to delay their return from their summer recess from July 13 until July 27 after two lawmakers and several staff tested positive for COVID-19. In the interim, the Capitol complex is undergoing a deep clean and sanitation. This delay, coupled with the several weeks of unplanned recess near the beginning of the pandemic, means legislation will likely need to be pared back even further.

The League has delayed submitting many of our bill position letters so that we could continue to work with authors on amendments and because bills many of these bills will inevitably be sidelined during the committee process. With this additional legislative delay, the League will now be trying to unveil our position letters this week in batches.

League's Annual Conference Goes Virtual

With so many factors related to the COVID-19 pandemic still unknown and the health and safety of League members, staff, partners, vendors and guests as our top priority, the League has decided to transform our Annual Conference, scheduled for October 7-9, 2020, in Long Beach, into a virtual event. This was a difficult decision because we know the value of city officials gathering face-to-face especially during challenging times like these. Additional details on our virtual conference will be announced in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Los Angeles Division Installation

The Los Angeles County Division will be hosting a virtual Installation of our 2020-21 Board of Directors on Thursday, August 6th at 5 PM. Details and registration for this event will be available at www.LACities.org under the events tab.