



**TO: South Bay Cities COG Board of Directors**  
**FR: Jeff Kiernan, League of California Cities**  
**RE: Cal Cities Update for 10/28/2021 Meeting** *(as prepared OCT 20)*

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### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

In the final weeks leading up to the October 10 deadline to sign or veto bills, the Governor took action on a number of Cal Cities priority bills. Although we saw several high-profile housing bills signed over Cal Cities' opposition, but there were several legislative victories this year, including:

- The Governor signed [AB 14 \(Aguiar-Curry\)](#) and [SB 4 \(Gonzalez\)](#), two Cal Cities-supported measures that prioritize the broadband needs of California's unserved and underserved communities, while providing local governments the flexibility and funding to expand deployment like never before. Cal Cities played a key role in the development of both of these bills.
- The Governor vetoed [SB 556 \(Dodd\)](#), a Cal Cities-opposed bill that would have forced local governments to make space available on public infrastructure to telecommunications providers. The Governor's [veto message](#) clearly recognized the important role of local governments in advancing our state's broadband efforts.
- Related to the Brown Act, the Governor signed [AB 361 \(Rivas\)](#), which allows local agencies to continue to meet remotely during proclaimed states of emergency in order to conduct government business and maintain local operations efficiently. The Governor vetoed another Brown Act-related bill, [AB 339 \(Lee\)](#), which would have forced cities with populations over 250,000 to provide both in-person and teleconference options for the public to participate in council meetings, which would limit flexibility and increase costs for cities. In his [veto message](#), the Governor noted the bill would create a confusing "patchwork approach" and sets a "precedent of tying public access requirements to the population of jurisdictions."
- The Governor signed two bills ([SB 619, Laird](#) and [SB 170, Skinner](#)), that will provide cities and counties with flexibility and direct funding to help them implement new SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) organic waste diversion regulations.

Cal Cities holds a webinar each year to highlight and discuss new laws from the previous legislative year and, although that event has not yet been scheduled, I expect it will be after the Thanksgiving holiday.

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### NOW ACCEPTING POLICY COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS

Cal Cities is currently seeking members who are interested in serving on one of seven policy committees:

- COMMUNITY SERVICES
- ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
- GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS
- HOUSING, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- PUBLIC SAFETY

- REVENUE & TAXATION
- TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC WORKS

Policy committee appointments are open to *all members*, including elected officials and city staff, with an interest in monitoring policy issues and legislation to make recommendations on policy changes to the League Board.

Please reach out to me ASAP if you are interested and have not had a conversation with me yet. By the time of your meeting, the deadline for Regional Division, Professional Department, and Diversity Caucus appointments will have passed, but appointments are still available from the Cal Cities President (until NOV 19).

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#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 9 from 6 - 8:30 PM:** All Cities Holiday Reception (with CA Contract Cities Assn. & Independent Cities Assn.) at the California Club in downtown Los Angeles.

**January 20 – 21 & 27 -28:** [New Mayors & Council Members Academy \(virtual\)](#)

**February 2 – 4:** [City Managers Conference \(Monterey\)](#)