

### **NEWS AND INFORMATIONAL**

**Membership Survey:** Help set Cal Cities 2024 Advocacy Agenda! You have an opportunity until to complete a [short survey](#) about the priorities you want Cal Cities to focus on in the coming years. Any Cal Cities member can complete the survey – including elected officials and city staff – so I hope you can take a few minutes to *complete this survey by Thursday, OCT 26*. More details are below, but [click here to complete the survey now!](#)

**Federal Funding Available for EV Charger Repair:** Nationally 6,000 public EV chargers have been identified as being temporarily unavailable and the Biden administration has supported legislation to fund repairs. \$100 million has been set aside within the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula for this purpose and cities have until November 13 to apply for funding. Applicants will need to provide 20% local matching funds and additional information on the grant can be found [HERE on grants.gov](#). Specific questions on the grant can be sent to [RAA-NEVI@dot.gov](mailto:RAA-NEVI@dot.gov).

**New Laws Webinar:** Join the Cal Cities lobbyists on **Monday, November 27 at 1:30 PM** to hear about legislation signed into law this year that will impact local governments. *Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, please register by COB on Wednesday, November 22*. Registration is \$25 for Cal Cities Members and can be completed [HERE](#).

### **END OF SESSION ADVOCACY UPDATE**

Below is information on the votes taken by legislators from my region on priority legislation before the end of session, plus the Governor's action on these bills.

#### **Community Services**

##### **AB 531 (Irwin) The Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2023 -- Concerns**

Would place a \$4.68 billion bond measure on the March 2024 ballot to finance grants for the construction and rehabilitation of community-based treatment settings and residential care settings for individuals experiencing homelessness. *Last minute amendments mean Cal Cities is not recommending cities seek the Governor's signature on this bill.*

**Assembly Votes:** AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

**Senate Votes:** AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Signed.**

##### **AB 1215 (Carrillo) Pets Assistance with Support Grant Program: Homeless Shelters: Domestic Violence Shelters: Pets -- Support**

Would create a grant program for homeless and domestic violence shelters to accommodate pets.

**Assembly Votes:** AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

**Senate Votes:** AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**VETOED.** [Read the Governor's Veto Message](#)

##### **SB 43 (Eggman) Behavioral Health -- Support**

Would update California's 1967 conservatorship law by expanding the definition of "gravely disabled" to include conditions that result in a substantial risk of serious harm to an individual's physical or mental health.

**Assembly Votes:** Unanimous AYES except Zbur not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES

**Signed.**

### **Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations**

#### **AB 504 (Reyes) State And Local Public Employees: Labor Relations: Disputes -- Oppose**

Would make sympathy striking a human right. It would also allow local public employees to refuse to enter property that is the site of a primary labor dispute, perform work for an employer involved in a primary labor dispute, or go through or work behind a primary picket line.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur. Not Voting: Irwin

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Vetoed.** [Read the Governor's Veto Message.](#)

#### **AB 557 (Hart) Open Meetings: local agencies: teleconferences -- Support**

Eliminates the January 1, 2024, sunset on the provisions of the Brown Act that provided additional flexibility for local agencies looking to meet remotely during an emergency while still maintaining public access and transparency under AB 361 (R. Rivas, 2021). The bill would also extend the renewal period for resolutions declaring the use of AB 361 to 45 days (up from 30 days). By doing so AB 557 would provide accommodation for those agencies regularly meeting on a fixed date every month.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except 1 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES

**Signed.**

#### **AB 764 (Bryan) Local Redistricting. Amended on 9/7/23 & Opposition Removed - Neutral**

Would update the procedures local agencies must follow when adjusting the boundaries of the districts used to elect members of their governing bodies.

**Signed.**

#### **AB 1484 (Zbur) Temporary public employees, as amended 5/18/23 -- Oppose**

Requires inclusion of temporary employees in the same bargaining unit as permanent employees and that the wages, hours, plus terms of condition of employment for both temporary and permanent employees must be bargained together in a single memorandum of understanding.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur.

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern. Not Voting: Allen

**Signed.**

#### **SB 411 (Portantino) Open meetings: teleconferences: neighborhood councils, as amended 4/24/23 -- Support**

Allows teleconference capability for Neighborhood Councils in the City of Los Angeles.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Signed.**

#### **SB 799 (Portantino) Unemployment insurance: trade disputes: eligibility for benefits -- Oppose**

Would provide employees who remain on strike for more than two weeks with Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur. Not Voting: Irwin

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern.

**Vetoed.** [Read the Governor's Veto Message](#)

### **Housing**

#### **AB 309 (Lee) Social Housing Act 2023 -- Oppose**

Would create the California Housing authority with a mission to produce and acquire social housing developments for the purpose of eliminating the gap between housing production and regional housing needs assessment targets and to preserve affordable housing. Amended and limited to 5 sites statewide (*none in our region*).

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Vetoed.** [Read the Governor's Veto Message](#).

#### **AB 519 (Schiavo) Affordable Housing Finance Workgroup: Affordable Housing: Consolidated Application Process -- Support**

Would create an Affordable Housing Finance Workgroup to create a consolidated application for affordable housing developers to use to access state housing funding programs and a coordinated review process for the application. Would also require the workgroup, on or before July 1, 2026, to report recommendations on implementing a coordinated review process.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYE

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYE except for one absent member

**Signed.**

#### **AB 1490 (Lee) Affordable Housing Development Projects: Adaptive Reuse – Oppose Unless Amended**

Would make 100 percent affordable housing projects that adaptively reuse existing residential buildings an allowable use, regardless of any inconsistencies between the project and any local plans, zoning, or regulations, and limits local governments from imposing maximum density or floor area ratio requirements, and any requirement to add additional parking or open space.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. Not Voting: Muratsuchi

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Signed.**

#### **SB 4 (Wiener) Housing Development: Higher Education Institutions and Religious Institutions – Support if Amended**

Would require that a housing development project be a use by right on land owned by an independent institution of higher education religious institution if the development satisfies specified criteria.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Signed.**

#### **SB 423 (Wiener) Land use: streamlined housing approvals: multifamily housing developments, as amended 5/18/23 -- Oppose**

Expands [SB 35](#) (Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) provisions and eliminates the January 1, 2026 sunset date, permanently requiring cities to ministerially approve certain housing projects without public input or environmental review.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. NOs - Muratsuchi  
[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern. Not Voting: Allen

**Signed.**

### **Public Safety**

#### **AB 33 (Bains) Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force, as amended 5/18/23 --**

##### **Support**

Establishes the Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force, consisting of law enforcement, public health officials, and healthcare providers to coordinate an effective response to the fentanyl crisis. The task force will focus on a number of different strategies, including increasing access to overdose-reversing drugs, improving substance use disorder treatment and recovery support, and crafting strategies to reduce the availability of illicit fentanyl.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYE

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYE except 2 not voting

**Signed.**

#### **AB 40 (Rodriguez) Emergency medical services as amended 5/18/23 -- Support**

Requires procedures and standards to improve ambulance patient offload time (APOT).

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYE except 6 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Signed.**

#### **AB 436 (Alvarez) Vehicles -- Oppose**

Repeals the authority given to local authorities to prohibit cruising. This bill would also remove a provision prohibiting a common modification made to cars used in cruising to have the vehicles ride low to the ground roadway.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi. Not Voting: Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas. Not Voting: Allen, Stern

**Signed.**

#### **AB 474 (Rodriguez) State Threat Assessment Center: transnational criminal organizations, as introduced – Support**

Requires the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to prioritize cooperation with state and local efforts to illuminate, disrupt, degrade, and dismantle criminal networks trafficking opioid drugs and to support state and local interagency task forces to combat illegal opioid trafficking, including preparing and disseminating intelligence products for public safety entities.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYE except 2 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Vetoed.** [Read the Governor's Veto Message.](#)

#### **AB 701 (Villapudua) Controlled substances: fentanyl, as introduced -- Support**

Increases the penalty and fine for trafficking controlled substances containing heroin, cocaine base, and cocaine to fentanyl.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYE except for 2 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYE except for 2 not voting

**Signed.**

**AB 1526 (Asm. Nat Resources) Solid Waste – Support**

Would provide cities the mechanism to be reimbursed under SB 54 (single use plastic law).

Assembly Votes: Unanimous AYES except for 2 not voting

Senate Votes: Unanimous AYES except for 1 absent member

**Signed.**

**SB 19 (Seyarto) Anti-Fentanyl Abuse Task Force -- Support**

Would establish the Anti-Fentanyl Abuse Task Force to undertake various duties including collecting data on the extent of fentanyl abuse in California and increasing public awareness.

Assembly Votes: Unanimous AYES except for 1 not voting

Senate Votes: Unanimous AYES

**Signed.**

**SB 602 (Archuleta) Trespass, as amended 3/20/23 -- Support**

Extends the effective duration of Letters of Agency from 30 days to 12 months and the operative timeframe of trespass authorization letters from 12 months to 3 years for the purpose of removing graffiti and mitigating other public nuisances on private property visible from public rights of way.

Assembly Votes: Unanimous AYES except for 4 not voting

Senate Votes: Unanimous AYES

**Signed.**

**Environmental Quality**

**AB 50 (Wood) Energy Utility Communication -- Support**

Would aim to address situation delays with connecting projects to the grid, including housing projects.

Assembly Votes: Unanimous AYES except 6 not voting

Senate Votes: Unanimous AYES

**Signed.**

**Transportation, Communications and Public Works**

**AB 400 (B. Rubio) Public Contracts: Design Build – Support/Sponsor**

Would extend the January 1, 2025 sunset to 2031.

Assembly Votes: Unanimous AYES except 4 not voting

Senate Votes: Unanimous AYES except 3 not voting

**Signed.**

**AB 825 (Bryan) Vehicle: Bicycles on Sidewalks -- Oppose**

Would prohibit a local authority from prohibiting the operation of a bicycle on a sidewalk adjacent to a highway or corridor that does not include a dedicated bikeway.

Assembly Votes: **AYEs** – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. **NOs** - Muratsuchi

Senate Votes: **AYEs** – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Vetoed.** [Read the Governor's Veto Message.](#)

**AB 1637 (Irwin) Local government: internet websites and email addresses. As amended 6/29/23 – Oppose**

Requires cities and counties to secure and utilize their website through a new .gov or ca.gov domain no later than January 1, 2029. It would also require all employee email addresses to reflect the updated domain within the same time frame.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. Not Voting: Muratsuchi  
[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Signed.**

**[SB 706 \(Caballero\) Public Contracts: Progressive Design Build – Support/Sponsor](#)**

Would remove the cap and would authorize all cities, counties, city and counties, or special districts to use the progressive design-build process for other projects in addition to water-related projects.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi, Zbur. Not Voting: McKinnor

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYE except for 3 not voting, including Stern

**Signed.**

**Revenue and Taxation**

**[ACA 1 \(Aguilar- Curry\) Local Government Financing: Affordable Housing and Public Infrastructure: voter approval -- Support](#)**

Would place a constitutional amendment on the ballot to reduce the voter threshold from 2/3rds to 55% for revenue measures related to affordable housing and infrastructure projects.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Governor Action Not Required.**

**[ACA 13 \(Ward\) Voting Thresholds -- Support](#)**

Would require any statewide initiative that seeks to raise a voting threshold, also pass by that same voting threshold.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Governor Action Not Required.**

**Regional: Los Angeles County Division Bills Not Already Above**

**[AB 1679 \(Santiago\) Transaction and use taxes: County of Los Angeles: homelessness, as amended 6/19/23 -- Concerns](#)**

[AB 1679](#) would authorize the County of Los Angeles to impose a transaction and use tax of up to .50% if approved by county voters for homeless services, homeless prevention and affordable housing. The Division is supportive of ongoing funding to address our growing homeless crisis, however our members remain concerned with the current Measure H model and would suggest stake holders discuss alternative revenue sources. The Division's Board have sent a letter requesting that any replacement for Measure H include the following considerations:

- Any new countywide revenue stream for homelessness must have a 40% dedicated local return to assist cities currently spending General Fund revenues to provide homeless services and shelters.
- A Transaction and Use Tax that Exceeds the State Cap is Unwarranted and Unequitable.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYE – Bryan, Gipson, Lowenthal, McKinnor. Not Voting: Irwin

[Senate Votes](#): AYE – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**Signed.**