



# **CITY OF BEAUMONT**

## **2025 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

### **PURPOSE**

The City of Beaumont's 2025 Legislative Platform confirms the City Council's position on current issues with the potential to directly or indirectly, impact the City. The platform establishes guidelines for actively pursuing support or opposition to pending legislation. Below are the Guiding Principles that will allow City staff to address 2025 legislative and regulatory issues promptly, without precluding the consideration of additional legislative and budget issues that may arise during the legislative session.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

#### *I. PRESERVE LOCAL CONTROL*

Preserve and protect the City's powers, duties, and prerogatives to enact local legislation and policy direction concerning local affairs and oppose legislation that preempts local authority. Local agencies should preserve authority and accountability for revenues raised and services provided.

#### *II. PROMOTE FISCAL STABILITY*

Support measures that promote fiscal stability, predictability, and financial independence, and preserve the City's revenue base and maximum local control over local government budgeting. Oppose measures that shift local funds to the County, State, or Federal Governments and/or make cities more dependent on the County, State, or Federal Governments for financial stability, such as unfunded mandates or mandated costs with no guarantee of local reimbursement or offsetting benefits.

#### *III. SUPPORT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES*

Support opportunities that allow the City to compete for its fair share of regional, state, and federal funding. Support funding for programs with combined benefits to transportation, public safety, and water/wastewater.

#### *IV. ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH ADEQUATE PUBLIC SAFETY*

Reform recently enacted criminal justice laws — enacted by both statute and initiative — that have eroded public safety protections of Beaumont residents. Protect existing city authority to deliver local emergency services.

## **POLICY STATEMENTS**

### **Administration**

- Oppose State or Federal efforts to “borrow” local revenues and encourage the State to find other methods of balancing its budget.
- Support local government action, rather than the imposition of state, federal, or regional mandates upon local governments, as well as federal mandates placed on the state.
- Oppose any amendment to the redistribution of sales and use taxes which will negatively affect the City and its ability to provide city services and thereby cause a negative fiscal impact.

### **Community and Economic Development**

- Support economic development initiatives that preserve and enhance a positive business climate and maintain and grow the business tax base.
- Maintain an equitable program for the continued disbursement of sales and use taxes which reflect local impacts on various communities.
- Oppose policies requiring a single power source.
- Support legislation that allows local governments to continue to retain full authority to reject projects or to condition project approvals and impose mitigation measures
- Oppose measures to withhold funding dedicated to transportation funding unless proposed housing goals are being met.
- Oppose measures that would undermine established general plan, zoning, and housing documents.
- Oppose measures that undermine the planning vision of local government and contradict the expectations of our community, which includes projects mitigation of their impacts.

### **Water and Wastewater**

- Support and monitor legislation that would increase the availability of, and funding for, water conservation, water reuse technologies, water recycling, local water storage, and other water supply technologies such as the Groundwater Replenishment System project.
- Support legislation that requires water providers to service housing projects that meet RHNA and or other housing mandates.

- Support the availability of funding for wastewater service providers and biosolids producers to address PFAS and other contaminants of emerging concern.

### **Parks and Recreation**

- Support legislation and funding opportunities (e.g. federal and state park grant funds, conservancy grant funds, project mitigation funds, etc.) that help cities build better, stronger communities by providing funding to improve air, water, parks, open space, natural resources, historic preservation, the arts and cultural resources.

### **Public Safety**

- Law enforcement education standard – CPCA, in partnership with other statewide law enforcement associations, will sponsor legislation to codify a new education standard for specified peace officers that builds upon previous measures and recommendations. Our goal is to specify the elevated education requirements for the policing profession in a way that is meaningful and realistic, without negatively impacting recruitment efforts. To do so, there should be multiple pathways for satisfying the new education requirements, which account for established training, prior experiences, and existing infrastructure.
- Criminal threats – Ongoing threats made against schools and religious institutions continue to demand swift law enforcement responses whenever they occur, especially in the face of recurring mass shooting events and rising religious conflicts. However, the California Penal Code does not qualify a threat against a school, building, or a place of worship as a “criminal threat” unless the threat is levied against a specific individual. Therefore, one of CPCA’s priorities is to sponsor legislation, similar to SB 796 (Alvarado-Gil, 2024), to make any threat made against a school or places of worship a criminal violation.
- K-9 guidelines – Building upon our work from last year, and the development of new K-9 guidelines by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), CPCA will sponsor legislation to ensure those guidelines are a standard for all agencies.
- Illegal E-Bikes – CPCA will work with CHP and other traffic safety agencies to introduce legislation targeted at illegal use of e-bikes – specifically those that exceed established speed thresholds.
- Illegal radio/signal interference devices – Across the country, the use of illegal radio/signal interference devices has become a prevalent problem. Handheld signal jammers that block radio communications, Wi-Fi, and alarms systems have been used in California by organized criminal enterprises in the commission of major crimes, including large scale retail theft and burglary. However, existing California law does not give state and local law enforcement agencies clear

authority to cite or penalize the possession, sale/purchase, transfer, or use of these devices, all of which are illegal under federal law. To address these limitations, which are essential ahead of the worldwide sporting events coming to California in the coming years, CPCA will sponsor legislation to give state and local law enforcement the ability to cite, investigate, and prosecute the use of these devices.

- Drones – Both state and national legislative bodies have now considered, on multiple occasions, the outright ban of certain foreign made drone systems, including those under current utilization by a majority of California law enforcement. To address the concerns raised regarding cyber security threats, while still protecting the use of important public safety tools, CPCA will sponsor legislation to set specified requirements to be met prior to the use of certain foreign made drones.

### **Public Works (Transportation and Infrastructure)**

- Support legislation that would increase funding for local, sub-regional, or regional transportation projects.
- Support protection of dedicated transportation-related tax revenues.
- Support commuter public transportation hubs to be located in areas where there will be a large public benefit.

### **Finance**

- Support policies that encourage fiscal responsibility at the federal, state, and local level.
- Support enhancement of municipalities' flexibility to finance public projects economically and efficiently.
- Oppose efforts that reduce local revenues or future opportunities for local revenue.