WESTSIDE CITIES
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

WSCCOG Legislative and Policy Platform

Overview
The WSCCOG Legislative and Policy Platform (Platform) serves as a reference guide for the WSCCOG Board in formulating positions on legislative measures and initiatives at the Federal, State, and regional levels. The Platform will also provide direction for the WSCCOG appointed representatives serving on local policy committees, such as Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), League of California Cities, and others. The priorities outlined in the Platform reflect the collective interest of the WSCCOG member cities, as well as support a regional approach towards developing and implementing policies. The WSCCOG shall support legislation guided by the following priorities:

A. Employment

1. Support legislation that will provide productive tools and incentives that support job creation, expansion, and retention
2. Support legislation that increases the state and federal minimum wage
3. Support legislation and efforts that further or enhance the enforcement of local wage laws

B. Environment

Air Quality
1. Support efforts and programs in achieving greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals
2. Support the increase of funding and infrastructure for alternative fueled vehicles, zero emission vehicles, and emerging emission-reduction technologies

Energy
1. Support the ability of local governments to implement community choice aggregation for the purchase of electricity
2. Support legislation that reduces energy consumption by investing in energy-efficient programs and renewable energy technology

Water
1. Support efforts and legislation that promote water conservation
2. Support legislation that increases the use of recycled water to support efforts that will increase local water supply needs and make local water supplies more sustainable
3. Support increased funding and encourage partnerships to advance water recycling, groundwater cleanup, and stormwater capture
4. Support efforts that protect our state's ocean and coastal waters from offshore drilling, exploration and fracking, and other well stimulation techniques, as well as support no new federal oil and gas leasing in all U.S. waters, including off the coast of California.

C. Homelessness

1. Support a balanced and realistic approach to address the homeless crisis by considering the need for assistance, services, medical and mental health services, and permanent and supportive housing for homeless people and families
2. Support the increase of funding sources and collaborate in a regional effort to reduce and prevent homelessness, expand the availability of permanent supportive housing that provides coordinated services, and create and rehabilitate housing for low-income populations who are vulnerable to homelessness
3. Support cross-agency, community cooperation, and multi-jurisdictional collaboration in responding to homelessness and implementing evidence-based strategies

D. Housing

1. Support the increase of funding sources and the establishment of ongoing funding for financing affordable housing, including senior housing and assisted living facilities, and related programs
2. Support the development of fiscal tools and incentives to assist local jurisdictions to encourage affordable housing and finance the infrastructure to support housing
3. Support efforts to strengthen and maintain rent control laws at the state level and reduce regulatory barriers

E. Human Services

1. Support state and federal funding to enhance the quality of early care and education, childcare facilities, and before-school and after-school programs
2. Support proposals that promote more collaboration between child welfare service agencies, parks and recreation departments, local school districts to enhance and establish partnerships to enhance the overall quality of life for children and their families
3. Support proposals that expand youth employment, mentoring, and diversion programs including career technical education
4. Support coordination of senior services to create an integrated long-term care system, including disabled and paratransit services, intergenerational care programs, nutrition programs, and other supportive services

F. Parks and Recreation

1. Support the increase of funding sources for the development and local operation/maintenance of parks, recreational facilities, and open space
2. Support legislation and measures that invest in and protect existing parks, recreational facilities, and open space
3. Support efforts to increase resources for local arts, cultural events and library programs, including performing and visual arts programs

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G. Transportation

1. Support the increase of funding sources for projects identified in the current list of WSCCOG Transportation Priorities
2. Support the increase of funding for transportation operations, programs, and projects, including public transit, active transportation, and projects that enhance safety for all modes of transportation, reduce traffic congestion and improve circulation
3. Support the preservation and enhancement of funding for the Safe Routes to Schools program
4. Support the expansion of bicycle and pedestrian access and infrastructure
5. Support efforts that promote new models for mobility that attract and provide convenient choices for people while helping to reduce vehicle congestion and climate change