



2017 ADOPTED PRIORITIES

1. ***Affordable Housing & Homelessness*** – Continue to support development of policy tools and funding mechanisms amongst our membership cities and local policy leaders in addressing the challenges of affordable housing and homelessness. Continue collaboration with Silicon Valley at Home and other key stakeholders to ensure effective housing policies as cities consider new funding streams, such as housing impact fees, and new ordinances. With the passage of Measure A, the Santa Clara County Affordable Housing Bond providing local funding (\$950 million) for housing our most vulnerable populations, it is important to continue and monitor efforts towards implementation and equitable distribution of Measure A funds. Continue to support legislation and other strategies establishing permanent sources of funding for affordable housing.
2. ***Age-Friendly Communities*** – The United States’ older population is projected to double in the next 20 to 25 years. Continue to support the County’s Age-Friendly Communities initiative and support cities in expanding and providing services and programs focused on addressing the needs of older adults. The World Health Organization founded the Age-Friendly Network in 2005 and currently includes 302 cities and 33 countries. Once a city receives its age-friendly designation progress is made through intention and collaboration across various departments, e.g. planning, transportation, recreation departments, etc., Thus far, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Morgan Hill, and Saratoga have received designation as Age-Friendly Communities; other cities are pursuing the designation.
3. ***Cities Association Guiding Principles on Actions/Recommendations*** - The Cities Association takes positions to inform and energize cities about local issues, promote cooperation among cities in presenting a unified voice for our cities, and to take action in the best interest of cities and the region. Develop standing positions that the Cities Association can act on as needed without the Board’s approval. Currently, the Cities Association of Santa Clara County is authorized to take positions on legislation and regional initiatives through the review and vote of the Board of Directors, which generally meets once per month. As an effort to increase efficiencies, an approved list of standing positions or guiding principles would be instrumental in circumstances when the request for the Association to communicate its position on proposed legislation or initiatives arises with insufficient time to bring the matter to the entire Board for approval.
4. ***Countywide Taxi Regulations*** - Continue efforts from 2016 to streamline taxi regulation countywide; the Cities Association has directed regional effort with the City Managers Association to propose a system of reciprocity in which each city adopts a universal ordinance or each city honors permits granted by other cities. Eight cities in Santa Clara County enforce various taxi regulations and include requirement of permits, business license, fingerprinting, and periodic vehicle inspections. The taxi industry is finding it hard to compete with the Transportation Network Companies (TNC’s), such as Lyft and Uber, due to adherence to regulations in each city across the county despite their similarities.
5. ***Equitable Communities*** – Consider action or recommendation to membership cities in wake of President-Trump’s new policies on immigration enforcement and pledge to protect our minority constituents regardless of race, gender, class, religion, sexual orientation, or disability and advance our commitment to safety and equity across communities.
6. ***Marijuana Regulation and Best Practices*** – With the passage of Proposition 64 legalizing the use of recreational marijuana on November 9, 2016, Board Members are interested in collaborating on regulation and education and sharing best practices. Local government may ban or regulate cultivation. As an effort to prevent unlicensed activity, San Jose and several other cities have passed urgency ordinances banning recreation use of marijuana. San Jose is the only city in Santa Clara County that currently allows medical marijuana collectives and deliveries to where permissible through a highly regulated delivery system. San Jose has expressed willingness to collaborate with jurisdictions as needed and explore ways to address illegal deliveries across the county.

7. ***Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Sub-Region Option*** – Continue exploration of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) sub-region option in which our region can own the responsibility of preparing a sub-regional housing need allocation for the geographic area of Santa Clara County. In November 2015, the Board approved formation of a Subcommittee in collaboration with Silicon Valley at Home for technical and staff support. The Subcommittee is tasked with: a) Developing the framework and process needed to form and implement a sub-region in Santa Clara County in the next RHNA cycle (2023-2031); and b) Reviewing potential options for further regional response.
8. ***Transportation*** – Along with high housing costs, transportation has been a top concern among our local leaders. With Passage of Measure B, which is projected to generate at least \$6.3 billion over 30 years to help relieve congestion on expressways and highways, repair streets, improve bicycle and pedestrian pathways, increase Caltrain capacity and complete the expansion of BART through downtown San Jose and into Santa Clara, it is important to monitor implementation and address other regional efforts in support of increased funding to improve infrastructure and reduce congestion across the region. Other regional measures include VTA’s Draft Transit Service Plan and MTC’s Regional Measure 3 (RM3), a toll increase that would raise funds annually for transportation projects in Marin, Alameda, Contra Costa, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Solano and San Francisco counties. Legislation is required to give MTC authority to place the measure on the ballot for the Gubernatorial election in 2018.

THE CITIES ASSOCIATION WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW/SUPPORT:

1. **Community Choice Energy** – As Community Choice Energy (CCE) efforts are underway, continue to monitor legislation and support Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority (SVCEA) and cities’ efforts as needed. SVCEA was officially founded in April 2016 with 12 participating jurisdictions, truly embodying a regional collaborative effort that began at the Cities Association. SVCEA is now a non-profit public agency that will begin providing 100% carbon-free cleaner greener electricity at competitive rates to residents and businesses throughout Silicon Valley starting in just a few months. Community Choice Energy/Aggregation allows a city to enter into energy purchase agreements from renewable sources, which residents can voluntarily utilize; it has the proven ability to reduce electricity rate and rapidly green the grid.
2. **Minimum Wage** – Continue to support membership cities as they consider joining six cities (Cupertino, Los Altos, Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose, Sunnyvale), 74% of the county, increasing the minimum wage to \$15 by 2018/19, thanks to collaborative efforts at the Cities Association and between Mayors across the county. In June 2016, based on results of a regional study and input from stakeholders and members of the public, the Cities Association endorsed a regional recommendation and requested all membership cities to consider increasing the minimum wage to \$15 by 2019. Though some cities have opted not to adopt a minimum wage ordinance, there are several cities that have adopted the ordinance and a few more plan to consider it as an effort to provide all workers with a more livable standard of wage in a region known for its high cost of living.
3. **Public Health Policy** – Continue collaboration with Santa Clara County Public Health Department (SCC PHD) to ensure active, safe, and healthy communities. In 2016 the Cities Association worked with the county’s Public Health Department in supporting the “Healthy Cities Campaign – Dashboard,” an effort created to incentivize cities to develop and implement health policies and change within their communities. Policies were based on three focus areas: 1) Active & Safe Communities; 2) Tobacco-free environments; 3) Access to Healthy Food & Beverages.

THE LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE 2017 PRIORITIES INCLUDE:

1. **Collaboration with our Santa Clara County State & Federal Legislative Delegation** - Support and promote legislative efforts initiated by our delegation to enhance local government. Work with local state representatives to initiate legislation in support of regional priorities.
2. **Collaboration with the League of California Cities** - Support the League of California Cities’ advocacy on behalf of cities.