



**CITY OF CORONADO**

# **2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES**

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January 20, 2026

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## INTRODUCTION

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The following guidelines will be utilized to take positions on state and federal legislative issues affecting the City of Coronado. These guidelines allow for the efficient transmittal of correspondence from the City to advocate for desired policy outcomes.

In accordance with the guidelines, staff is authorized to communicate the City's position, engage with the City's state and federal advocacy teams and prepare correspondence on behalf of the City for the Mayor's or City Manager's signature, if the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore are unavailable to sign. If there are new issues not contemplated in the guidelines, the matter shall go to the City Council for direction.

Additionally, in accordance with Council Policy #26, legislative correspondence signed by the Mayor shall be presented to the full City Council, subject to agenda deadlines, at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting as a non-action item under the Agenda Heading of COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN.

As needed, staff will provide periodic updates on important legislative issues at regular City Council meetings. The City Council will then have an opportunity to make a position statement on the issues or specific legislation.

These guidelines are reviewed annually by the City Council and revised to reflect positions the Council has taken on previous legislative issues or may want to take based on recommendations from staff.

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## I. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

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### A. State / Federal Mandated Programs

1. Support legislation requiring the State and Federal Government to provide full cost reimbursement to cities for all mandated programs and for all programs resulting in revenue losses.
2. Oppose legislation that fails to provide adequate funding for State and Federally mandated programs.
3. Oppose legislation and/or advocate for changes to legislation that imposes new, undue or unreasonable burdens on City operations or impairs the most cost-effective management of State-mandated programs.
4. Oppose any measure that mandates procedures (such as maintenance-of-effort) that would make local government more dependent on the State for financial stability.

### B. Long-Term Financing of Local Agencies

1. Support legislation that further protects local government revenue from being taken, confiscated, shifted, diverted or otherwise used to fund State government operations and responsibilities, or reduces local discretion in the use of local government revenues.
2. Oppose legislation that would punitively reduce local government funding for transportation or other discretionary funding for not meeting state housing goals.

### C. Revenues, Fees and Taxes

1. Support legislation which increases local revenues or improves local government's ability to generate revenue.
2. Oppose legislation that would change the property tax allocation method or formula that would result in less property tax to the City of Coronado.
3. Oppose legislation that would transfer a local government's reserves, or designated reserves, to the state or other agency, caps a local government's reserves or reduces local government revenue due to the level of reserves it maintains.
4. Support legislation to protect and preserve local control over locally imposed taxes (such as transient occupancy tax and franchise fees).

5. Support legislation that would repeal FY 92-93 and FY 93-94 property tax shift from cities.
6. Support legislation to protect critical local programs and services from State budget cuts.
7. Support legislation that would create cost recovery for local police, fire, and emergency medical services to state/military properties, including military housing.
8. Support legislation that would create cost recovery for local non-safety public services to state/military properties, including military housing.
9. Support legislation that would amend the State Constitution Article XIID, Section 6.C. to include storm drain fees among the list of types of fees that are exempt from the voting requirements imposed by Proposition 218.
10. Support legislation that would provide an exclusion from retirement pay received by uniformed services members from the federal government during the taxable year. Support an additional exclusion from income annuity payments received by a surviving spouse of a member of the uniformed services.
11. Support legislation funding and streamlining major capital projects such as utility undergrounding, solar panels, public libraries, vehicle charging stations, parks rehabilitation, coastline remediation, fire station construction and climate resiliency.

**D. Border Area Economic Development**

1. Support legislation which would provide aid to and assist in the development of the economies of Coronado and other South Bay and border cities.

**E. Local Educational Funding**

1. Support legislation that guarantees Federal Impact Aid Funds to Coronado schools.
2. Support legislation that provides flexibility for use of 2% pass-through funds (Health & Safety Code section 33676) on school district operations.

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## II. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

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### A. Workers' Compensation

1. Oppose legislation which would increase employee benefits without system reforms which would offset increased employer costs.
2. Oppose legislation which would provide presumptive eligibility for the award of benefits for Workers' Compensation or other employee health benefits.
3. Support legislation which would remove existing presumptive eligibility for the award of benefits for Workers' Compensation or other employee health benefits.
4. Support legislation which would reform the Workers' Compensation system to reduce employer costs through the reduction of system abuse.

### B. Unemployment Compensation

1. Oppose legislation which would increase employer liability for unemployment compensation, or which would reduce local discretion to manage this risk.

### C. Labor Relations

1. Oppose legislation which would impede local administration of labor relations.
2. Oppose legislation which would require, impose, or expand compulsory binding arbitration for public employees.
3. Oppose legislation which would increase the cost of benefits, the cost of administering benefits, or mandate that a special group health and welfare benefit be provided to all employees.
4. Oppose legislation which reduces local control over public employee disputes and/or imposes regulations from an outside agency.
5. Oppose legislation which makes disciplinary proceedings for public safety employees similar to criminal proceedings, making it virtually impossible for employers to prove an administrative violation.
6. Oppose legislation restricting the availability of evidence in administrative investigations and hearings involving public safety employees.

**D. Government Relations**

1. Oppose legislative efforts that restrict the City from contacting and representing itself on issues of importance before state agencies and commissions.
2. Support local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

**E. Pension Reform**

1. Support legislation for pension reform that provides sustainable pensions for local government employees.

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### III. PUBLIC SAFETY

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#### A. Crime and Safety Violations

1. Oppose efforts that would impede local law enforcement from addressing crime within the community and recovering costs resulting from a crime committed by a guilty party.
2. Support legislation which strengthens State graffiti law and provides local government revenue and resources for graffiti abatement.
3. Support legislation that would protect the public from identity theft.
4. Support legislation that would provide funds for local law enforcement technology.
5. Support legislation that would provide funds for additional equipment, services, and/or personnel.
6. Support legislation that would increase the ability of local law enforcement officers to issue a citation to any motor vehicle (including motorcycles) that emits an excessively loud or disturbing noise not necessary for its operation.
7. Support legislation that allows for local discretion in use of technologies to monitor, warn and enforce speed, noise and other traffic violations.
8. Support legislation that allows for local establishment of rules, penalties and violations, licensing requirements, insurance standards, age limits and any operating parameters for electric bicycles (e.g., e-bikes or e-motos, including e-motorcycles) within City limits to promote safety for vehicle operators and the community.
9. Support legislation that would allow a local agency to develop their own bail schedule for violations of the Vehicle Code and/or allow a local agency to develop its own municipal code for said purpose.
10. Support legislation that broadens the threshold for auto burglary by removing the requirement for a vehicle to have locked doors and rolled-up windows in order to meet the definition.

#### B. Drugs

1. Support legislation which strengthens State and Federal drug laws to give local government the power to restrict or regulate the sale, manufacture and the use of alcohol and/or controlled substances.
2. Oppose legislation that would limit a city's authority to regulate, permit, license, or prohibit the cultivation, distribution, or sale of marijuana.

3. Support legislation which would provide a greater share of seized assets to localities.

**C. Fire Protection**

1. Support legislation protecting local discretion regarding building and fire code standards.
2. Support legislation that provides funding for local emergency operations including facilities, equipment, services and personnel.
3. Support legislation that explores innovative efforts and pilot programs that enable emergency providers to control costs.
4. Support legislation that offers streamlined permitting and required reviews and offers funding for the design and construction of public safety facilities.

**D. Medical Care**

1. Support legislation protecting or increasing municipal discretion regarding the provision of emergency medical services.
2. Support legislation to regularly update the Geographic Practice Cost Index to provide for adequate reimbursement schedules for physicians in San Diego County who treat Medicare and Medicaid patients.
3. Support legislation that provides State and Federal funding for local hospital operations and capital improvement projects.
4. Support legislation that would enhance or provide funding sources for the delivery of emergency medical and ambulance transportation services.
5. Support legislation that would reduce the amount of time City emergency medical and ambulance services must wait at hospitals until patients can be released from their care.

**E. Homeland Security**

1. Support legislation that would provide funding for Homeland Security measures.
2. Support legislation that would require communicating with city officials regarding threats to local safety, as threats occur.

**F. San Diego-Coronado Bridge**

1. Support legislation for the establishment and allocation for state and federal funding of a suicide prevention barrier, foundation rehabilitation, and barrier protection system for the Coronado Bridge.

2. Support legislation that seeks City of Coronado review and support to any modifications to the appearance or functioning of the Coronado Bridge.
3. Oppose legislation that would require the City of Coronado to pay, or otherwise diverts funding intended for the benefit of Coronado to the Coronado Bridge, for any purpose.

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## IV. TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

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### A. Transportation

1. Seek and support legislation that would provide State and Federal funding and encourage participation in congestion relief for the SR 75/282 Transportation Corridor.
2. Support legislation which provides equitable amounts of State and Federal funding for roads and highways and facilitates the timely construction of local transportation projects.
3. Support legislation which reaffirms State responsibility for highway funding and oppose legislation that would relinquish State Routes to local governments without appropriate consideration or concurrence.
4. Support legislation which assures Federal and State funding efforts for local transportation projects and for alternative forms of transportation, including locally operated mini-shuttle programs.
5. Support legislation providing funds for local agencies to establish peak hour traffic management plans.
6. Support State and Federal financial incentives for employees who commute to work in carpools or use public transportation.
7. Support legislation that allows the use of technologies such as speed and noise cameras based solely on safety concerns.
8. Support legislation that would allow the lowering of the speed limit on State Route 282 and State Route 75/Silver Strand Highway.
9. Support legislation for active transportation methods in the City of Coronado to improve bikeability and walkability throughout the City.
10. Support legislation to facilitate the expedited relinquishment of State Routes 75 and 282, should the City of Coronado decide to take ownership of all or a portion of these roadways.
11. Support legislation that allows local governments to establish reasonable control and regulations over taxicabs and transportation network companies such as Uber or Waymo that operate within their jurisdictions.
12. Support legislation that enhances funding for commuter ferry service to and from Coronado's and neighboring cities' military bases, including the use of alternative fuel and/or electric vessels for this service.

13. Oppose legislation that automatically grants development rights based upon local, regional or state transportation plans.

**B. Solid Waste and Recycling**

1. Support legislation for local agencies providing assistance to help prepare and implement recycling plans.
2. Support legislation which encourages the State to provide funding for added costs of implementing mandatory solid waste, household hazardous waste, organic waste, and recycling programs to local agencies.
3. Support legislation which sets reasonable and flexible recycling standards.
4. Support legislation that would exempt a city from AB 939 penalties due to a federal installation's excessive contribution to the city's waste stream.
5. Support legislation encouraging active development of markets for recycled goods.
6. Support legislation providing state funding for the City's household hazardous waste collection program.
7. Support legislation which reduces local government's superfund liability for solid waste.

**C. Public Rights-of-Way**

1. Support legislation to retain local control over public rights-of-way.
2. Oppose legislation that would limit the City's ability to regulate or prohibit activity in the public rights-of-way or on public property.

**D. Public Works**

1. Support legislation that provides cities with the ability to impose consequences regarding future work opportunities on contractors selected under low bid contract requirements that deliver unsatisfactory contract performance.
2. Support legislation that would allow general law cities to use design build or other alternative delivery methods for constructing capital improvement programs.
3. Support legislation that would provide greater flexibility in the use of City forces to complete minor Public Works contracts.
4. Support legislation that would allow general law cities to use a two-step, best value contract acquisition method for service contracts.

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## V. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

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### A. California Environmental Quality Act

1. Support legislation which improves CEQA requirements to aid in a thorough environmental review of future projects that is efficient, tailored to appropriate scope and completed within reasonable timelines.
2. Support legislation that would exempt local agencies from completing CEQA or obtaining additional permits from State or Federal agencies for temporary events.

### B. Offshore Drilling

1. Oppose legislation which includes any San Diego County coastal areas in the lease/sale program.
2. Support legislation which provides for oil spill prevention and response.
3. Support legislation which creates a Coastal Sanctuary which prohibits a State agency from entering into a new lease for the extraction of oil in State waters.

### C. Waterfront

1. Support legislation which provides funding for waterfront coastal restoration, protection, and enhancement, including beach sand replenishment and protective measures.
2. Monitor efforts to improve or modify facilities at Silver Strand State Beach with the intent of preserving the environment and access for the Coronado residents who are adjacent to the State Beach.
3. Monitor the status of legislation and seek state cooperation and funding for protecting the Silver Strand and Coronado Bridge Scenic Highways, including maintenance and operations of the Silver Strand State Park, master planning efforts, ridge line fence improvements, and rehabilitating and upgrading the environmental preserve north of the bayside beach picnic area.
4. Oppose projects that diminish or have a negative impact on the Silver Strand and Coronado Bridge Scenic Highways.
5. Support legislation to fund advance planning and mitigation efforts for sea level rise.

**D. Water**

1. Support legislative efforts to feasibly improve the water quality in San Diego Bay.
2. Support legislation to provide Southern California with a stable source of fresh water.
3. Support legislation which would provide incentives and funding for alternative water sources and for water conservation measures sponsored by local agencies.
4. Support legislation that would advance the opportunity to secure and utilize reclaimed/recycled water.
5. Support legislation that would support the development of a Long-Range Regional Water Reuse Plan that would not preclude a local agency from pursuing its own reclaimed water initiative.
6. Support legislation that would expand the ability of local government officials, staff, and the public to serve on the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

**E. Storm Drain and Sewer**

1. Support legislation that provides funding and grants for recycled water, wastewater and storm water infrastructure.
2. Support legislation to provide funding for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit compliance and other mitigation measures and projects to reuse, divert, or treat urban runoff.
3. Oppose legislation that imposes more stringent requirements on storm drain runoff without providing funding and/or consideration of the feasibility of monitoring and mitigation of such requirements.
4. Support any requirements by State or Federal agencies for testing water quality and water body closures to be reasonable, scientifically established and periodically reviewed for quality assurance.
5. Support legislation that would provide funding for the Transbay wastewater system and other projects in the sewer and storm water master plans.
6. Support Federal and State legislation to allow for smaller secondary equivalency at the Point Loma Wastewater Plant (including the proposed Pure Water San Diego Program) rather than upgrading the plant to full secondary treatment as long as the discharges from the plant are not harming the environment.

7. Support legislation to fund programs for the proper disposal of prescription drugs.

## **F. Cross Border Water Pollution**

1. Support Federal and State legislation that provides Federal and State funding or enables other funding sources for the study, design, construction, maintenance and operation of improved wastewater treatment, water conservation, flood control and other infrastructure facilities, and environmental mitigation and restoration projects in Mexico and the United States.
2. Support legislation that provides authority to the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) to accept funding from other State and Federal agencies and non-Federal entities to fund improvements to wastewater infrastructure, water conservation or flood control projects and other structure to support the function of the IBWC.
3. Monitor requirements and protocols by County, State or Federal agencies for ocean water quality testing and water body closures, and advocate for properly calibrated testing that properly informs residents and visitors of water conditions without creating unnecessary water closures.
4. Monitor progress of Mexican wastewater infrastructure projects agreed to under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and Minute 333 between the United States and Mexico. Advocate for and support United States efforts to encourage the Mexican Government's completion of all agreed upon projects, including any necessary related infrastructure, and to ensure the inclusion of clearly defined accountability measures for addressing future degradation, lack of maintenance and appropriate upscaling of all sewage infrastructure, including but not limited to wastewater and stormwater management and treatment infrastructure.

## **G. Regional Growth Management**

1. Support legislation that would produce additional resources, including adequate funding, to local agencies to address regional growth issues.  
  
Support legislation that would authorize local agencies to establish regional authorities to address growth management issues on a voluntary basis that does not compromise the City of Coronado's membership or role in regional governance issues or local municipal land use authority.
2. Support legislation that would return the SANDAG Executive Board voting structure to a tally vote rather than a weighted vote which currently disenfranchises smaller cities within the San Diego region.

**H. Air Quality**

1. Support legislation to feasibly improve the air quality in San Diego County.
2. Support legislation which allocates State and/or Federal funds for compliance with Federal and State air quality standards.
3. Support legislation that would provide funding for alternative fuel vehicles and charging stations for electric vehicles.

**I. Wetlands**

1. Oppose legislation which adversely impacts wetlands adjacent to Coronado.

**J. Energy**

1. Support legislation that effectively stabilizes energy availability, promotes electrification, and reduces energy costs.
2. Support legislation that would provide funding for renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and conservation measures.

**K. Land Use**

1. Oppose legislation that takes a punitive approach to the City General Plan and grants any extraordinary powers to State agencies with regard to the City's General Plan, local zoning or ordinances.
2. Oppose legislation, or other agency actions, that would usurp local control of land use decision-making.
3. Oppose legislation that would impose State-mandated development standards or procedures that are contrary to the Coronado General Plan or local land use policy.
4. Oppose legislation that impairs a local agency's land use authority or enables automatic intensification of development without due regard to local context and community impacts, public input and local legislative consideration.
5. Oppose land use legislation that is inflexible and cannot be modified through local review.
6. Oppose proposals that would alter air traffic that could result in negative impacts to Coronado.
7. Support legislation that would prohibit transient rental hosting platforms from facilitating occupancy of a residential unit offered for tourist or transient use in violation of any ordinance, regulation, or law of the city; and require transient rental hosting platforms to report quarterly activities sufficient to enforce local transient rental regulations and zoning.

8. Support actions by the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (SDCRAA) related to the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) that do not adversely impact properties in Coronado based on the Air Installation Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ) study from the Navy.
9. Support reform of the Mills Act property tax formula to provide transparency, predictability and reliability to residents, while reducing administrative burden.
10. Support legislation that preserves municipal authority to identify, designate, and regulate historic and cultural resources, including historic districts and adopted Historic Context Statements.
11. Support housing legislation that recognizes historic resources as valid planning considerations and allows adaptive reuse, rehabilitation, and context-sensitive infill consistent with adopted local preservation policies.

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## VI. HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT DISSOLUTION

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### A. Housing

1. Oppose legislation which restricts local discretion in the use of housing funds or in the assessment of housing needs.
2. Support legislation which exempts military jobs from Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) formulas and provides credit for housing units contained within adjacent military installations.
3. Require HCD and Regional Planning Agencies to consider growth limitations imposed by other state and regional planning agencies, such as the Coastal Commission, port and airport authorities, when analyzing Housing Elements for compliance.
4. Support reform legislation of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process to provide cities with more flexibility meeting State housing law especially with respect to local context, more direct authority into the methodologies used to assign housing units to respective cities and finality of State requirements for the RHNA cycle upon certification of a Housing Element.
5. Oppose legislation that penalizes a city if units identified in the Regional Housing Need Assessment (RHNA) are not constructed.
6. Support legislation which provides a funding source, e.g. tax increment financing, for affordable housing projects and programs similar to the former redevelopment affordable housing set-aside.
7. Support efforts that provide funding and resources to assure local governments have the ability to address the needs of the homeless in their communities and protects the City's ability to preserve public safety and livability.

### B. Successor Agency

1. Oppose legislation which reduces the amount of Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) revenues allocable to successor agencies.
2. Oppose legislation which shifts revenue from successor agencies to the State to cure State budget deficits.
3. Oppose legislation which authorizes other agencies to assess successor agencies in excess of costs for actual services rendered.
4. Oppose legislation that prohibits a successor agency from repaying loans from a City that were provided to the agency for a lawful purpose.

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**VII. RECREATION**

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1. Support legislation that would provide funds for local and regional recreation areas, parks, facilities, and services.
2. Support legislation that provides funding from SANDAG, the State, and/or the Federal Government to complete, expand and maintain the Bayshore Bikeway project around the entire San Diego Bay and other bikeway networks in San Diego County.

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## VIII. CITY - NAVY RELATIONS

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- A. Support the Navy on matters of mutual concern that are consistent with the City's best interests to maintain a high quality of life for the community, dealing with base security, mission priorities, training facilities, air traffic safety, ocean water quality, ground traffic congestion, and pollution.
- B. Support the Navy's efforts in retaining Naval Base Coronado (NBC) as a long-term, exclusive military facility under BRAC.
- C. Oppose efforts for joint use of commercial air passenger or cargo use of Naval Air Station North Island (NASNI).
- D. Oppose legislation that interferes with the City's land use authority to retain existing uses and allow for reasonable expansion of structures within any landing zones.
- E. Support efforts to reintroduce passenger ferry service as a sailor commuter ferry service to and from Coronado's and neighboring cities' military bases.
- F. Continue to collaborate with the Navy to minimize impacts of Navy aircraft flying in close proximity to residential homes.
- G. Monitor and scrutinize additional days of allowed aircraft carrier "days in port" at Naval Air Station North Island (NASNI) to minimize traffic and other impacts on the community, and pursue accountable offsetting transportation programs for any intensification of personnel or transportation of goods and supplies to service the carriers.
- H. Support legislation enabling and funding the electrification of Naval Base Coronado (NBC) piers to provide a shore power source for all vessels, to diminish sound and vibration impacts to the community.
- I. Work collaboratively with Naval Base Coronado (NBC) to minimize events that may impact the City.
- J. Support additional Navy Housing on Naval Base Coronado (NBC) and all surrounding bases for its sailors and employees.