



CITY OF MILPITAS

Revision	Date
Original	5/18/2021

CITY COUNCIL POLICY

Policy No: 1-2	LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY POLICY	Effective Date: 5/18/2021
Revision No: N/A	Policy Administrator: City Manager	Next Review Due: Click or tap to enter a date.
Related Policies and Procedures: Click or tap here to enter text.	Approved by: City Council, 5/18/2021, Item # C9: 5-0 vote	Date Approved: 5/18/2021

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To establish clear guidelines for advancing City goals and positions through legislative review and advocacy at the regional, state, and federal levels of government and to provide guidance for City officials who serve on regional, state, and national boards, committees, and commissions when they are asked to review public policy matters and issues.

2. POLICY

- 2.1. This policy outlines the guiding principles and process to enable a comprehensive review of legislation affecting the City of Milpitas, seek Council's position on proposed legislation, and to make the City's position known.
- 2.2. All legislative reviews shall be made on the basis of the effect on the City and the community as a whole, and taking into account existing City positions, policies, or goals.
- 2.3. The City shall support the legislative positions of the Cities Association of Santa Clara County, League of California Cities, and the National League of Cities, on priority bills that benefit the City of Milpitas.
- 2.4. The City shall adopt Legislative Guiding Principles (LGP) based on approved Council Priority Areas, the adopted General Plan, the Economic Development Strategy, and other Council approved master plans and strategic plans.
- 2.5. On an annual basis, the LGP shall be updated as needed, and shall be approved by the City Council at the beginning of the calendar year.

3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1. The following definitions are provided solely as a guide to assist in the application of this policy and may be subject to change.
 - 1.1.1. Department – Includes all City departments and offices
 - 1.1.2. Economic Development Strategy – A five year strategy document adopted by the City Council in May 2020
 - 1.1.3. General Plan – A comprehensive planning document adopted by the Council in March 2021



CITY OF MILPITAS

Revision	Date
Original	5/18/2021

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY POLICY / POLICY # 1-2

- 1.1.4. Legislative Advocacy – A position of support or opposition to proposed legislation
- 1.1.5. Legislative Guiding Principles – Principles adopted on an annual basis by the City Council to guide the City's position on proposed legislation
- 1.1.6. Milpitas Municipal Code – Codification of the General Ordinances of Milpitas

4. PROCEDURE

- 4.1. Legislation and issues of interest are brought to the City's attention through several means: League of California Cities, National League of Cities, Cities Association of Santa Clara County, Councilmembers, legislators, City staff, community members, and professional or governmental organizations. All legislation or issues of interest shall be referred to the City Manager's Office.
- 4.2. City Manager's Office (CMO) shall review the proposed legislation and, if warranted, request assistance from the City Attorney and/or from one or more departments.
- 4.3. The process for evaluation and action related to proposed legislation of particular interest to the City shall be as follows:
 - 1.1.1. CMO/Department shall evaluate the proposed bill for its impact on Milpitas, recommend a position and potential action, and draft a position statement or support/opposition letter.
 - 1.1.2. If Council has previously adopted a policy directly relevant to the proposed legislation or if the proposed legislation is generally consistent with the City's Legislative Guiding Principles, the Mayor or City Manager may sign a letter supporting or opposing legislation on behalf of the City as further detailed below.
 - 1.1.3. If there is no Council policy relative to the legislation, the issue is politically controversial, or there is significant community interest in the issue, the proposed legislation, including a recommendation to support, remain neutral, or oppose the legislation, will be brought to Council for consideration.
 - 1.1.4. Letters and other communications expressing the City's position on legislation will bear the signature of the Mayor in accordance with the Milpitas Municipal Code. If the legislation will mainly impact the City's operations, the communication may be signed by the City Manager or designee.
 - 1.1.5. In order to keep the City Council informed of all City communications on legislation, copies of the letter or summary of actions will be distributed to the City Council as information items.
- 4.4. Quarterly legislative updates on items of interest will be provided to the City Council.



CITY OF MILPITAS

Revision	Date
Original	5/18/2021

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY POLICY / POLICY # 1-2

CITY OF MILPITAS – LEGISLATIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Protect Local Control

The City values its ability and authority to exercise local control, enable excellent public services and protect and enhance the quality of life for Milpitas residents and businesses. The City supports efforts to streamline regulations that benefit the administration of the City and opposes efforts that erode the City's authority to control its own affairs.

2. Support Efforts to Keep Milpitas Safe

The City supports legislation and policies that enable local officials to access resources to provide quality police, fire, emergency management, emergency medical services, youth violence prevention initiatives, and to engage the community in its own safety.

3. Support Efforts to Create Affordable Housing

The City supports legislation and policies that enable local officials to access resources to support the creation of affordable housing and to strive for a balance of jobs and housing in each city across the region.

4. Support City's Vision for Strategic, Sustainable, and Smart Growth

The City strives to foster economic development, including planning and implementation of regional transportation and traffic congestion relief projects. The City supports legislation and policies that support local initiatives to develop or redevelop the community to strengthen the local and regional economy, to accommodate local workers' housing needs in places close to transit and jobs, and to continually improve services provided to the community.

5. Protect and Increase Local Funding, No Unfunded Mandates

The City opposes legislation, policies, or budgets that have negative impacts on City services, revenues or costs. The City supports efforts that protect and enhance local governments' revenues, maximize access to State and Federal funding sources, and increase local funding flexibility including legislation that allows the City to recover costs related to state and federal mandates.

6. Pursue or Retain Federal and State Funding for Key Efforts

In order to support the City's efforts and key policies to provide quality services, affordable housing, transportation, and public infrastructure for its residents and businesses, and to fund the needed strategic support services, it is necessary that the federal and state governments act as partners with local government and provide appropriate levels of funding for these City and regional efforts.

7. Support and Promote Inclusive Communities

The City values diversity and recognizes all residents, including immigrants, as valuable contributors to our community's success. Support legislation that helps our residents be safe, healthy, and able to thrive, while providing opportunities to actively engage in civic, cultural, and economic life.



CITY OF MILPITAS

Revision	Date
Original	5/18/2021

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY POLICY / POLICY # 1-2

8. Promote Livability and Environmental Stewardship

The City values a sustainable quality of life in an urban environment. The City supports legislation and policies that emphasize sustainable development; improve environmental standards and the regulatory process; provide incentives and financial support for preservation of natural resources; promote sustainable energy and water policies; and support efforts to mitigate odor issues.

9. Promote Investment in Infrastructure

The City supports legislation and policies that promote investing in the maintenance and rehabilitation of aging infrastructure and build system capacity expansion in a smart and sustainable manner.