

CITY OF CYPRESS
2026 STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

The Legislative Platform is a tool to protect and promote the City's interests on priority issues, legislative and regulatory matters that may impact Cypress. The Legislative Platform defines the City Council's policy guidelines and legislative priorities to provide the foundation for advocacy efforts at the federal, state, and local levels. Maintaining a legislative platform allows for timely response to legislative and regulatory issues important to the City, including letters from the Mayor or City Manager to the Legislature and/or Congress consistent with the Platform. The Legislative Platform also summarizes the City Council's positions on priority issues without precluding the consideration of additional legislative and budget issues that arise during the year.

POLICY GUIDELINES

I. PRESERVE LOCAL CONTROL

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

II. PROMOTE FISCAL STABILITY

Support measures that promote fiscal stability, predictability, and financial independence. Support measures that preserve the City's revenue base and local control over local government budgeting, recognizing that economic cost is a factor in considering the merits and/or impacts of proposed legislation or regulation. Oppose measures that make cities more dependent on the County, State or Federal governments for financial stability, such as mandated costs with no guarantee of local reimbursement or offsetting benefits. Oppose measures that shift local funds to the County, State or Federal governments, without offsetting benefits.

III. SUPPORT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Support opportunities that allow the City to compete for its fair share of regional, state and federal funding, and that maintain funding streams. Opportunities may include competitive grant and funding programs. Opportunities could also include dedicated funding streams at the regional, state and federal levels that allow the City to maximize local revenues, offset and leverage capital expenditures, and maintain City standards and goals.

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LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Community Services

- Support funding, measures, and legislation that provide for constructing, rehabilitating and maintaining public facilities, parks and open space.

Environmental Quality

- Oppose legislation that imposes undue hardship on local agencies to implement environmental regulations.
- Support measures that expand markets for recyclable materials and maintain local authority and flexibility to regulate solid waste and recyclables.
- Support legislation that establishes funding opportunities that provide for compliance with environmental regulations.

Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations

- Monitor mandates in connection with proposed administrative or legislative action that would modify the governing responsibilities and authority of city councils.
- Support measures to achieve and maintain fair and proportionate representation on county-wide and regional boards.
- Oppose measures that reduce local control or create additional financial burden related to employee relations and collective bargaining issues that can be negotiated at the bargaining table.
- Support reform measures that provide sustainable and secure public pensions and other post-retirement benefits to ensure responsive and affordable public services.

Housing, Community and Economic Development

- Support legislation that strengthens local control and decision making on land use and zoning matters.
- Support reforms and improvements to housing element law to provide clear processes and flexibility to allow regional cooperation and establish realistic housing goals and performance standards.
- Support economic development initiatives that preserve and enhance a positive business climate, maintain and grows the business tax base or supports job creation, job retention and local business.

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- Support legislation that provides funding, resources, and flexibility to provide affordable, transitional, supported, and emergency housing to prevent homelessness and assist individuals experiencing homelessness.

Public Safety

- Support legislative efforts to improve local law enforcement, fire suppression and prevention, hazardous materials mitigation, rescue, emergency medical services and disaster preparedness.
- Support legislation that strengthens community safety by addressing illegal drugs, preventing drunk driving, and ensuring responsible prisoner release policies that reduce recidivism and protect the public

Revenue and Taxation

- Oppose legislation that would increase the City's dependence on the State for financial stability and policy direction.
- Support the preservation and enhancement of the City's ability to generate and retain sales and use tax revenue, and local point-of-sale revenue allocations.

Transportation, Communications and Public Works

- Support and pursue funding that specifically benefits Cypress' transportation and public works projects.
- Support protection of dedicated transportation-related tax revenues and enhance the ability of local agencies to finance local transportation programs and facilities.