



Summary of Existing Policy and Guiding Principles

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Public Safety

Scope of Responsibility

The Committee on Public Safety reviews both federal and state legislation and issues and makes recommendations to the League Board of Directors related to law enforcement, to fire and life safety policies including emergency communications and emergency services, including ambulance, specialized rescue, and disaster preparedness. The Committee uses existing League policy, annual conference resolutions and the knowledge and expertise of individual committee members in order to recommend policies in these and related areas.

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Fire Services

- The League supports the fire service mission of saving lives and protecting property through fire prevention, disaster preparedness, hazardous-materials mitigation, specialized rescue, etc., as well as cities' authority and discretion to provide all emergency services to their communities.
- The League supports and strives to ensure local control of emergency medical services by authorizing cities and fire districts to prescribe and monitor the manner and scope of pre-hospital emergency medical services, including transport through ambulance services, all provided within local boundaries for the purpose of improving the level of pre-hospital emergency medical service.
- The League supports legislation to provide a framework for a solution to long-standing conflict between cities, counties, the fire service and LEMSA's. Particularly by local advisory committees to review and approve the EMS plan and to serve as an appeals body. Conflicts over EMS governance may be resolved if stakeholders are able to participate in EMS system design and evaluation and if complainants are given a fair and open hearing.
- The League supports amending Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations to require stored pressure dry chemical fire extinguishers to be serviced and recharged every six years or after each use, whichever occurs first. Additionally,

the League supports an amendment to Title 19 that would require a licensed technician to perform the annual external maintenance examination of stored pressure dry chemical fire extinguishers.

- The League opposes legislation, regulations and standards that impose minimum staffing and response time standards for city fire and EMS services since such determinations should reflect the conditions and priorities of individual cities.
- The League supports Emergency 911 systems to ensure cities and counties are represented on decisions affecting emergency response.
- The League supports additional funding for local agencies to recoup the costs associated with fire safety in the community.

Law Enforcement

- The League supports the promotion of public safety through:
 - o Stiffer penalties for violent offenders, and
 - o Protecting Community Oriented Policy Services (COPS) funding and advocating for additional funding for local agencies to recoup the costs of crime and increase community safety.
- The League opposes booking fees and continues to seek their repeal, while encouraging localities to pursue resolution of the issues with their respective counties.
- The League supports a local government's ability to double the fine for traffic violations in school zones in an attempt to reduce the speed of drivers and protect our youth.
- The League supports reimbursement by the federal government to local agencies, specifically cities, for the costs associated with incarcerating deportable criminals, including the direct costs associated with processing and booking at the time of arrest.

Emergency Communications Interoperability

- The League supports activities to develop and implement statewide integrated public safety communication systems that facilitate interoperability and other shared uses of public safety spectrum with local, state and federal law, fire, emergency medical and other public safety agencies.

Public Safety

Wildland Urban Interface

- The League supports activities to cooperate, coordinate, and communicate in the development of better land use policies and wildland fuel management programs to decrease impacts to public health and safety resulting from wildland urban interface fires.

Nuisance Abatement

- The League supports enhanced local control over public nuisances including, but not limited to:
 - o Adult entertainment facilities;
 - o Problem alcohol establishments; and
 - o Properties where illegal drugs are sold.

Violence

- The League supports the reduction of violence through strategies that address domestic violence, youth access to tools of violence, including but not limited to firearms, knives, etc., and those outlined in the California Police Chiefs Policy Paper endorsed by the League Board of Directors.

Indian Gaming

The League supports the following principles that are intended to balance tribal self-reliance with the local government mandate to protect the public health and safety.

- Require an Indian Tribe that plans to construct or expand a casino or other related businesses to seek review and approval of the local jurisdiction for such improvements consistent with state law and local ordinances including the California Environmental Quality Act, with the Tribal government acting as the lead agency and with judicial review in the California courts.
- Require mitigation of off-reservation impacts consistent with environmental protection laws that are at least as stringent as those of the surrounding local community and CEQA.
- Require written agreements between tribes and affected local agencies to ensure tribes are subject to local authority related to the infrastructure needs and services outlined above.
- Require adequate compensation from the tribes to the local agency providing the government services that are required by the tribal casino or related businesses.

- Ensure compensation to local agencies from the Special Distribution Fund for off-reservation mitigation coupled with other sources to ensure adequate compensation.
- Require a judicially enforceable agreement between tribes and local jurisdictions on all of these issues before a new compact or an extended compact may become effective.
- Establish appropriate criteria and guidelines to address future compact negotiations.
- The Governor should establish and follow appropriate criteria to guide discretion of the Governor and the Legislature when considering whether to consent to tribal gaming on lands acquired in trust after October 17, 1988 and governed by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. § 2719).

Graffiti

- The League endorses the “Tag You Lose” anti-graffiti campaign and encourages other cities to implement this program into their existing anti-graffiti programs.
- The League supports increased authority and resources devoted to cities for abatement of graffiti and other acts of public vandalism.

Miscellaneous

- The League asks any company manufacturing or marketing or planning to manufacture or market colored-tread tires in California to voluntarily abandon such a product line and thereby prevent the public safety, environmental and social problems these tires can potentially cause.
- The League warns those individuals that advocate or perpetrate hate, not to test the cities’ resolve to oppose them as each city is encouraged to vigorously pursue a course of investigation, apprehension, prosecution, conviction, and incarceration of all those who participate in hate crimes.

Note: The League will review new legislation to determine how it relates to existing League policies and guiding principles. In addition, because this document is updated every two years to include policies and guiding principles adopted by the League during the previous two years, there may be new, evolving policies under consideration or adopted by the League that are not reflected in the current version of this document. However, all policies adopted by the League Board of Directors or the League’s General Assembly become League policy and are binding on the League, regardless of when they are adopted and whether they appear in the current version of “Summary of Existing Policies and Guiding Principles.”