

# City of Hesperia

## STAFF REPORT



**DATE:** February 4, 2020  
**TO:** Mayor and Council Members  
**FROM:** Nils Bentsen, City Manager  
**BY:** Rachel Molina, Assistant to the City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration of the 2020 Legislative Platform

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### RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the 2020 Legislative Platform and associated policy statements and funding priorities.

### BACKGROUND

The City Manager's office is responsible for maintaining the annual Legislative Program which is intended to assist the City Council in the timely response to State and Federal legislative proposals that have the potential to impact the City of Hesperia. To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the City's legislative advocacy program, the City Council adopts a Legislative Platform each year to serve as the foundation for the City's advocacy strategy.

The 2020 Legislative Platform outlines the City's priorities for the coming legislative year. Adopting the Legislative Platform provides clarity to the Mayor and City Manager on the City Council's position on priority legislative issues while simultaneously allowing for flexibility to adapt to the variety legislative and budgetary issues that arise throughout the year. The adoption also allows for the prompt submission of letters of support or opposition consistent with the platform to the Legislature and Congress on behalf of the City of Hesperia.

In addition to providing direction to the City Manager's Office for responding to legislation, grant and funding opportunities, the 2020 Legislative Platform also provides guidance to the City's Federal and State legislative advocates in representing the City's interests during the year.

### ISSUES/ANALYSIS

The Legislative Platform is comprised of three components: the Legislative Platform Process, the Legislative Policy Statements, and the City Council Funding Priorities.

Because the Legislative Platform is a long term, multi-year effort that helps the City maintain a consistent approach in pursuing its legislative priorities, the Policy Statements and Council Funding Priorities are updated each year after review and input from Senior Management and the City's Federal and State legislative advocates.

The Policy Statements in the 2020 Legislative Platform emphasize preserving and protecting local control over city revenue, land use, economic development and other activities that benefit and enhance Hesperia.

City projects that are of the highest priority to the City, and that have the greatest potential for funding include the following:

- Transportation
  - Ranchero Corridor Widening Project
  - Main Street Widening and Aqueduct Bridge Construction
  - I Avenue Widening
  - Traffic Signals
- Flood Control
  - A-04 Corridor Flood Protection Program
  - Temecula Avenue Basin
- Sewer Improvements
  - Township Septic to Sewer

These projects will be included in the City's Priority Project book for the 2021 Federal Fiscal Year.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The Legislative Platform is coordinated by the City Manager's Office. Costs for any necessary travel and other related expenses by Council Members and staff will be discussed during the City's budget process or on a case-by-case basis.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Provide alternative direction to staff

## **ATTACHMENT**

1. 2020 Legislative Platform