



VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS
Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO
Vice Mayor

ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO
Councilmember

PEGGY LEMONS
Councilmember

BRENDA OLMOS
Councilmember

April 5, 2023

The Honorable Roger Niello
Vice Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 7110
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT FOR CAL CITIES 2023-2023 BUDGET REQUESTS

Dear Senator Niello:




In the spirit of a strong state and local government partnership that benefits all Californians, the City of Paramount respectfully calls on the State lawmakers to take action to bolster local government efforts to support our most vulnerable residents and ensure California's economic strength.

City officials are on the front lines delivering essential services to more than 80% of the state's residents. They rely on collaborative partnerships with the State and other organizations to meet the challenges facing our communities. Every day, local leaders connect individuals experiencing homelessness with wraparound services, delivering permanent supportive housing, and jumpstarting the construction of affordable housing in their communities. Clearly there's more work to do and that requires additional resources.

The City Paramount calls on the Legislature to make a permanent funding stream of \$3 billion annually for cities to help more Californians find homes and prevent more Californians from having to live on the streets, under bridges, or in their cars.

Tougher fiscal times can exacerbate the challenges our communities face by contributing to a downturn in the production of affordable housing, an increase in the struggle for resources for unhoused residents, and ever-increasing economic inequity. In the face of another potential recession, we cannot afford these gaps to widen.

Dedicated to providing fiscally responsible services that maintain a vibrant community.

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An ongoing \$3 billion investment from the state can spur much-needed housing production, ensure that thousands more Californians experiencing homelessness get the support they need, and more importantly, prevent thousands more from losing their homes. This funding will further our state-local partnership to advance practical, data-driven, and effective strategies to two of the state's biggest challenges.

Paramount's ongoing efforts to reduce and prevent homelessness includes working with local agencies like the Salvation Army and Family Promise of the South Bay to provide temporary shelter and safe spaces for those at immediate risk of experiencing homelessness. We also work with non-profit organizations to provide individuals struggling with homelessness with life-changing resources like legal aide, case management, assistance with job searching, childcare, transportation, and more. Currently, our Homeless Services Programs are being maintained by Home-ARP and ARPA funds. On-going fiscal support will benefit Paramount by providing financial stability to our programs and maintaining our level of services to fit the needs of our community.

It is also time for the state to finally pay down its growing backlog of unreimbursed claims — nearly \$1 billion — owed to local governments for state-mandated programs. The vitality of local governments is dependent upon fiscal stability, and local governments rely on the state to reimburse them in a timely manner for costs related to delivering a wide range of state-mandated programs.

Equally important, the City of Paramount strongly opposes any action that would reduce or eliminate funding for local governments as a short-term solution to balance the 2023-24 state budget. Diverting funding would only compound cities' financial challenges and jeopardize the delivery of critical resources to our most vulnerable residents.

It is for these reasons that the City of Paramount requests your favorable consideration in support of Cal Cities 2023-2024 Budget Requests. Please feel free to contact City Manager, John Moreno at (562) 220-2225, if you have any questions. On behalf of the City of Paramount, we thank you for your time and consideration.

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CC. Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, 62nd District
Kristine Guerrero, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
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April 5, 2023

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8630
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT FOR CAL CITIES 2023-2023 BUDGET REQUESTS

Dear Senator Skinner:

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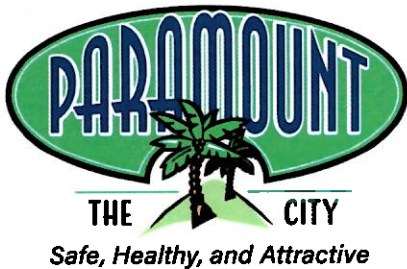
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April 5, 2023

The Honorable Philip Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT FOR CAL CITIES 2023-2023 BUDGET REQUESTS

Dear Assembly Member Ting:

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