

# TOWNSEND

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

TPA, INC.

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## MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Albert Robles, Mayor, City of Carson  
Ken Farfsing, City Manager, City of Carson

**From:** Christopher Townsend, President  
Niccolo De Luca, Senior Director  
James Peterson, Federal Director  
Alex Gibbs, Senior Associate

**Date:** July 13, 2017

**Subject:** Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. Current Activity Summary for the City of Carson

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Townsend Public Affairs is proud to serve as the Federal and State advocates for the City of Carson. In this capacity TPA has successfully lobbied the City's position on dozens of bills both in Sacramento and Washington D.C. as well as crafted legislation for the specific benefit of the City and then shepherded it through the legislative process and Governor's office into law. Below is a summary of activities TPA is currently working on for the City of Carson.

### 2016 – 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION ACTIVITIES

#### **Protect Local Control**

##### AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) Cities & Counties: Contracts

TPA worked with a coalition of local government stakeholders to oppose AB 1250. This bill would have effectively eliminated the ability of Carson to contract out for services. The bill would have also required the City to maintain searchable databases of employee information, costing the city unknown amounts of staff time and resources. Through the lobbying efforts of TPA, and coalition members, the bill has been amended to remove cities.

##### SB 268 (Mendoza) Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

TPA has been working closely with the author's office, and a coalition of Los Angeles County cities to advance SB 268. The bill would provide for the restructuring of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors to be more representative of smaller cities in Los Angeles County. The bill would potentially increase the number of seats on the board from 13 to 21 voting members. TPA continues to lobby for the bill and will be testifying on behalf of Carson in the Assembly Committee on Local Government.



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### SB 649 (Hueso) Wireless Telecommunication Facilities

TPA prepared a memo on SB 649 for the City Manager and Council, and has been working with a coalition of local government stakeholders to oppose SB 649. The bill would force local governments to waive their discretionary review for the installation of "small cell" antennas and infrastructure within their right of way. The measure preempts local control and adopted land use plans by mandating that these "small cells" be allowed in all zones by right. TPA continues to lobby against the bill and will be testifying on behalf of Carson in the Assembly Committee on Local Government.

### **Support Transportation Infrastructure Funding**

#### SB 1 (Beall) Transportation Funding

TPA advocated on behalf of the City in support of the transportation funding proposal by Senator Jim Beall and Assembly Member Jim Frazier, chairs of their respective Transportation Committees. The proposal would generate transportation infrastructure funding, going directly to cities and counties for local streets and roads maintenance and rehabilitation. In addition, the legislative proposal includes \$200 million annually to local jurisdictions that have enacted local transportation funding measures, i.e. "self-help" cities and counties. The proposal also includes two constitutional amendments to dedicate the new stream of funding exclusively for transportation purposes only and reduce the voter threshold for local transportation measures from two-thirds approval down to 55 percent approval. The bill was signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown earlier this year.

#### Goods Movement Funding

TPA has been working with closely Assembly Member Gipson's office on the allocation of funding through SB 1 and the state's Cap and Trade Program for adequate goods movement compensation. This is in direct response to the disproportionate number of heavy duty vehicles and trucks that travel on Carson city streets to and from ports and shipping warehouses every day. Currently goods movement funding programs fail to adequately distribute funding to communities such as Carson that are disproportionately impacted.

#### Carson State Budget Funding

TPA continues to work with the City Manager's office and our legislative delegation, including Assembly Member Gipson and Senator Bradford on the City of Carson's state budget funding requests. TPA is currently in the process of working with the City Manager's office to ensure that the City's capital priorities are being considered for inclusion in the 2017 and 2018 state budgets.

### **Enhance Local and Economic Development**

#### SB 343 (Bradford) Personal Income Taxes: Kast Property Tank Farm Facility Cleanup

TPA has been working closely with Senator Mendoza to advance SB 343. The bill was written specifically for residents of the Carousel Housing Tract in the City of Carson, who were awarded monetary compensation for physical and emotional impacts suffered as a result of hazardous waste that was improperly disposed of at the site of the future housing tract. Typically, only a

portion of this award would be considered tax exempt by the State, SB 343 would exempt all of these monies from State taxes. TPA continues to lobby for the bill and will be testifying on behalf of Carson in the Senate Committee on Governance and Finance.

### Brownfield Legislation

TPA Federal advocates have been working closely with staffers from Rep. Frank Pallone, Rep. David McKinley, and Rep. Elizabeth Esty's office on their Brownfields bills, currently making their way through Congress. TPA has also continued to work with Congresswoman Nannette Barragan's staff to communicate the importance of the Brownfields program to the City of Carson.

Furthermore, TPA has worked closely with appropriators in the House and Senate to ensure that the Brownfields program continues to receive adequate funding, especially in light of President Trump's budget proposal, which suggested large cuts to the program.

### **Enhance Environmental Quality**

#### Paris Climate Agreement Resolution

TPA assisted the City of Carson in committing to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement as part of a national effort by cities and local governments to continue the United States' participation after the Trump Administration's announced withdrawal.

#### AB 18 (Garcia) & SB 5 (De Leon) 2018 Park Bond

TPA has been working with the bill author and other key stakeholders in the legislature since the end of last session to advance both AB 18 and SB 5. Both bills include roughly \$3.5B in funding for parks, water and recreation infrastructure across the state. TPA has also worked to ensure concerns and priorities of the City were reflected in the amended language, including Council request for the priority/preference of funding for local special-needs parks, and include eligibility for pools, splash pads, community centers and other recreational amenities. TPA continues to work with the authors offices, and will be testifying in support of the bills once they are assigned to policy committees.

#### AB 1180 (Holden) Los Angeles County Flood Control District: Taxes, Fees, Charges

TPA facilitated an advocacy trip for the City Manager to come to Sacramento and testify on behalf of the City of Carson in support of AB 1180. The bill would authorize the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to levy a tax or fee for the purpose of carrying out projects and programs to increase storm water capture and reduce storm water runoff and urban pollution. TPA continues to lobby for the bill and will be testifying on behalf of Carson in the Senate Committee of Environmental Quality.