



City of Artesia 2026 Legislative Platform

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Purpose

The City of Artesia Legislative Platform aims to outline and formalize the City Council's policy positions on various State and Federal legislative matters. By adopting this platform annually, City Staff can effectively advocate for the City's interests at the Federal, State, and County levels, reducing the need for the Council to respond to legislative issues on a case-by-case basis throughout the year.

Implementation

Each year, City Staff presents the Legislative Platform to the City Council for review and adoption, outlining the City's stance on key legislative issues. The Mayor and Council are kept informed about legislative and policy matters that could significantly affect municipal services. When legislation aligns with the Legislative Platform, City Staff drafts position letters for the Mayor's approval. If a bill is not covered by the platform, further direction from the Council is required.

The Mayor and City Council may collaborate with partner organizations on legislative matters. However, on occasion, the City may not support a position taken by a partner. In these instances, City staff will use the principles and values outlined in this Legislative Platform to guide the City's position.

Letters of Support or Opposition

Position letters consistent with the adopted platform can be signed by the Mayor without full Council review. If the Mayor declines to sign, the Vice Mayor may step in. If neither signs, the matter is placed on the Council agenda for discussion. A summary of all issued letters is included in regular legislative updates to the Council. For legislation outside the platform's scope, the Council will review it at a future meeting.

Position Categories

- Support: Indicates the City favors the legislation.
- Support if Amended: Indicates support if specified changes are made.
- Oppose: Indicates the City opposes the legislation.
- Oppose Unless Amended: Indicates opposition unless specified changes are made.
- Neutral: Indicates no position or withdrawal of a previous stance due to legislative changes.
- Watch: Indicates the City is monitoring the legislation and may adopt a position later if needed.

The Legislative Platform does not restrict individual Councilmembers from expressing personal support for or opposition to any legislative initiative. However, Councilmembers should clearly state that their views are personal and not representative of the Council or the City.

Legislative Platform

The Legislative Platform outlines the City Council's official stance, remaining in effect until updated. The priorities are presented in general terms to accommodate a wide range of legislative proposals. Advocacy efforts by Staff or Councilmembers should be consistent with the Platform's adopted position. The Legislative Platform is divided into the following sections:

1. Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability
2. Community Engagement, Recreation, and Culture

3. Equity and Inclusion
4. Fiscal Stability and Resources
5. Homelessness
6. Housing and Land Use
7. Local Control and Governance
8. Public Safety
9. Transportation and Transit
10. Workforce and Economic Development

1. Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

- a. Advocate for grants that enhance renewable energy projects, expand urban forestry, and develop EV infrastructure.
- b. Support efforts to provide funding for critical climate adaptation measures, including wildfire mitigation and water conservation.
- c. Support policies that promote CEQA reforms that ensure responsible development while safeguarding environmental protection.
- d. Support policies that enhance air quality, reduce greenhouse gases, and advance zero-emissions technology with community involvement.
- e. Support legislation that encourages investments in modernizing city facilities and equipment to meet sustainability goals.
- f. Support initiatives that educate residents and advance environmental justice programs.

2. Community Engagement, Recreation, and Culture

- a. Advocate for financial support to enhance the Artesia Botanical Garden and sustain its operations.
- b. Promote investment in upgrading and expanding the Albert O. Little Community Center and Recreation and Park facilities.
- c. Endorse measures that improve access to Federal, State, and County recreation programs through prioritized funding.
- d. Oppose policies that restrict or diminish funding for parks, green spaces, and urban greening initiatives essential for local governments.
- e. Support revitalization and expansion of public green spaces and readiness for community-focused infrastructure projects.
- f. Advocate for inclusive programming that actively engages seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities within the community.
- g. Encourage development of recreation, sports, and outdoor education programs to enhance residents' quality of life.
- h. Back initiatives to strengthen and expand local library services to better serve the community.
- i. Support funding opportunities for youth and senior recreation programs, including event reimbursements.

- j. Promote the development of adaptive programs designed to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.
- k. Support legislation that offers grants or other funding to foster art and cultural programming.

3. Equity and Inclusion

- a. Advocate for policies and funding that ensure all residents have fair and equitable access to City programs and services.
- b. Support statewide and regional initiatives aimed at reducing disparities in healthcare, technology access, and public health outcomes for the community.
- c. Encourage state funding formulas that prioritize resources for disadvantaged and underserved populations.
- d. Promote the expansion of broadband access and technological resources in underserved urban and rural areas.
- e. Advocate for increased state investment in local public health programs to address equity gaps effectively.
- f. Collaborate with local schools and nonprofits to enhance educational success and career opportunities for youth.
- g. Endorse funding and policies that empower the City and its partners to engage with residents on issues of prejudice, discrimination, and social justice, fostering inclusion, understanding, and opportunity for all.

4. Fiscal Stability and Resources

- a. Oppose state measures that diminish or redirect local revenues, including property, sales, and transient occupancy taxes.
- b. Advocate for redirecting State and Federal tax revenues to benefit the City of Artesia.
- c. Oppose policies that undermine local authority over governance, taxation, revenue generation, or administration.
- d. Support full funding of state-mandated programs to prevent undue financial strain on local budgets.
- e. Promote initiatives that strengthen fiscal stability and enhance local budgetary resources.
- f. Support legislation aimed at improving the cost-efficiency of contracted services utilized by the City.
- g. Advocate for policies that empower local governments to develop additional revenue sources.
- h. Support legislation fostering the regulated cannabis retail industry to generate sustainable revenue for the City.

5. Homelessness

- a. Advocate for local initiatives that address homelessness through targeted support and resources.

- b. Support the allocation of permanent state budget funding for homelessness prevention, supportive housing, and mental health services.
- c. Support policies and program that foster collaborative, flexible solutions among cities, counties, and the state to address homelessness effectively.
- d. Support policies that promote and improve access to mental health treatment and rehabilitative care.
- e. Support efforts to affirm housing as a right, ensuring affordability, security, and protection from harassment or discrimination.
- f. Support policies that will increase Federal and State funding to combat and prevent homelessness in Los Angeles County.
- g. Endorse funding and policies that enhance discharge planning and expand re-entry housing programs to reduce homelessness among inmates, parolees, and probationers in Los Angeles County.

6. Housing and Land Use

- a. Oppose efforts that reduce local authority in land-use planning and development decisions, while advocating for policies that maintain local control over housing governance.
- b. Support funding and technical assistance that enable cities to meet housing needs effectively, ensuring alignment with local priorities and without fostering competition between developments.
- c. Advocate for policies that increase access to affordable housing through equitable subsidies, reducing barriers to development and promoting a balanced approach to housing and infrastructure.
- d. Support initiatives that help cities balance housing mandates with the capacity for infrastructure, environmental sustainability, and public services, ensuring comprehensive development.
- e. Promote policies that streamline permitting processes while preserving necessary local oversight and flexibility in decision-making.
- f. Support programs that provide rental assistance to tenants and property owners during emergencies, ensuring housing stability.
- g. Advocate for legislation that fosters mixed-income housing and homeownership opportunities, enhancing community inclusivity.
- h. Oppose policies that limit local discretion over parking management in housing and mixed-use developments, maintaining the authority of local governments in these matters.

7. Local Control and Governance

- a. Support legislation that safeguards the transparency and intellectual property of City information.
- b. Advocate for local jurisdictional powers to manage property use in ways that protect community health, safety, and welfare.

- c. Support policies that empower cities to govern based on their unique needs and challenges.
- d. Encourage efforts to limit state mandates that do not align with local priorities or requirements.
- e. Oppose state overreach and support preserving local authority in governance and decision-making.
- f. Advocate for legislation that provides cities with the flexibility to innovate and address local issues effectively.
- g. Oppose Federal and State mandates that impose unfunded or underfunded requirements on cities, ensuring that local governments are adequately supported for implementation.

8. Public Safety

- a. Support initiatives that enhance public safety across the City, including effective law enforcement and emergency services.
- b. Advocate for investment in local public safety, covering fire protection, emergency preparedness, and law enforcement training.
- c. Promote funding or reimbursement for municipal public safety services to ensure adequate resources for local agencies.
- d. Support legislation that supports effective law enforcement and oppose measures that may hinder public safety efforts.
- e. Support policies that promote programs that focus on gang and violence prevention, as well as initiatives for at-risk youth, after-school, and summer programs that foster positive development.
- f. Support policies aimed at preventing and addressing retail crime and improving enforcement.
- g. Advocate for resources that enhance emergency preparedness and response capabilities.
- h. Support efforts to address issues like graffiti, damage to public and private property, and illegal substance sales.
- i. Support policies that promote the development of integrated public safety communication systems between local, state, federal, fire, and emergency medical services.
- j. Support legislation that provides funding for emergency planning, training, and response efforts, focusing on disaster preparedness, mitigation, and recovery.

9. Transportation and Transit

- a. Support funding for local and regional transportation systems to enhance mobility and economic growth.
- b. Advocate for transportation solutions that improve safety, mobility, and economic development.

- c. Support state investment in public transit, active transportation, and safer streets initiatives.
- d. Support policies and programs that encourage alignment of regional transit systems with long-term funding for transportation infrastructure.
- e. Support legislation that ensures cities have a role in state-led transportation projects impacting local roads and communities.
- f. Support the Southeast Gateway Line and address first- and last-mile connectivity to strengthen public transit.
- g. Advocate for funding of the Southeast Gateway Line to create jobs and boost regional transit.
- h. Oppose policies or programs conflicting with corridor revitalization or mobility enhancement projects.
- i. Support legislation that promotes funding and resources to help cities transition to zero-emission fleets and clean energy technologies.
- j. Support tax incentives for public transit users to encourage alternatives to personal vehicle use.

10. Workforce and Economic Development

- a. Support efforts to revitalize local economies, support small businesses, and develop a skilled workforce through funding and resources.
- b. Advocate for investments in workforce development, small business grants, and economic recovery initiatives targeted at cities.
- c. Support partnerships with cities to provide affordable housing for essential workers, including teachers, first responders, and healthcare professionals.
- d. Promote funding for programs that revitalize downtowns affected by economic shifts and remote work trends.
- e. Support efforts to revitalize Artesia's downtown while preserving the city's identity, culture, and character.
- f. Advocate for funding and financing programs that attract new development.
- g. Oppose efforts that shift parking, zoning, or development guidelines away from local control.
- h. Oppose policies that create barriers for new businesses, hindering workforce and economic development.
- i. Support legislation that provides funding and resources for small business startups and workforce development initiatives.