



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Vice Mayor Chappie Jones

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: December 3, 2019

Approved

Date 12/3/2019

SUBJECT: 2020 Legislative Program and Top Legislative Priorities

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Accept staff recommendation; and
- 2) Amend proposed 2020 Legislative Program to include evaluation of the State's statute and Relocation Assistance Program, last amended in 1969, to ensure persons, including businesses, receive fair compensation for moving and related expenses from a public entity that undertakes a program or project that will result in displacement.

BACKGROUND

I commend staff's diligence and thorough work on their advocacy efforts, the proposed 2020 Legislative Program and the top legislative priorities for 2020 in alignment with Council's adopted guiding principles. In reviewing the proposed policy positions and as Chair of the Small Business Advisory Task Force, which is a body of small business chamber and association representatives facilitated by District 1, I recommend evaluation of the state Relocation Assistance Program as an amendment to the 2020 Legislative Program.

Per the Relocation Assistance Program, which was established to ensure that persons and businesses that are displaced by a public entity due to the rehabilitation, demolition, or acquisition of property, businesses are eligible to receive a maximum of \$10,000 for actual moving expenses or \$20,000 as an in-lieu payment. It is apparent that the enabling state statute, California Government Code 16. Relocation Assistance [7260 – 7277] was last updated in 1969 and thus, the funds required to compensate persons or businesses for injuries or hardships that they may incur as result of displacement has not been indexed to accommodate for inflation since 1969. Though the funding for public agencies' projects and programs is often limited, this should not override the responsibility to ensure fair and equitable treatment for persons and businesses that contribute to the quality of life and economic vitality of our communities, especially when the displacing programs and projects are often designed to result in benefits for the public as a whole.

The signers of this memorandum have not had, and will not have, any private conversation with any other member of the City Council, or that member's staff, concerning any action discussed in the memorandum, and that each signer's staff members have not had, and have been instructed not to have, any such conversation with any other member of the City Council or that member's staff.