

TO: SOUTH BAY CITIES COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FR: JEFF KIERNAN, LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES
RE: CAL CITIES UPDATE FOR 2/27/2025 MEETING

FEB 21 LEGISLATIVE DEADLINE TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION

Since being sworn in back in December, Legislators have been holding press conferences and putting out press releases about legislative ideas they *intend to author*, but very few legislators have put pen to paper and officially introduced these ideas in bill form. Cal Cities lobbyists and staff monitoring this process, but most bills will be in spot form for several more weeks before the text of these proposals are made available.

Each year, thousands of bills are introduced in the State Legislature by the introduction deadline near the end of February, which occurs this year on February 21. That deadline means that many of the bills which are introduced are simply placeholders – known as spot bills – without much more than a line or two about what the bill *might* seek to accomplish.

The LA County Division is currently monitoring several proposals related to wildfire recovery and bill ideas which are coming back after failing to cross the finish line last session. Examples of the proposals we are monitoring include:

- Senate Pro Tem Mike McGuire and others announced a package of 13 bills dubbed “The Golden State Commitment, to invest in a more fire-safe California;
- Assembly Member Tina McKinnor’s Carrier of Last Resort (COLR) proposal to allow AT&T to end their commitment to provide landline service in some areas. Last year this proposal was known as [AB 2797](#);
- Assembly Member Jessie Gabriel and LA County DA Hochman recently announced [AB 469](#) which would increase the penalties for impersonating a public safety official during a declared state of emergency;
- Senator Ben Allen’s [SB 220](#) would revise the membership of the LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority board of directors;
- Assembly Member Damon Connolly’s [AB 1](#) is a rare example of a proposal with complete details that is already supported by Cal Cities. This bill would require the Department of Insurance to update their Safer from Wildfire home regulations which include home hardening steps property owners can take to qualify for savings on fire insurance policies;
- Additionally, Cal Cities will be announcing several sponsored bills this year once these proposals have been introduced.

Interested in any of the above proposals or looking to further engage on legislation this year? Consider attending the **Cal Cities City Leaders Summit in Sacramento this April 23 – 25**. This annual event combines educational programming with an opportunity to lobby your legislators on Cal Cities priorities at the State Capitol. Check out www.CalCities.org/events or register for this three day conference in Sacramento [HERE](#).

FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAPS TO BE RELEASED ON MARCH 25

After a delay of more than a year, CalFire and the State Fire Marshall are slowly rolling out the new Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) local responsibility area (LRA) maps, with the Southern California area maps set to be released on **March 25**. Local governments no longer have any authority to request changes to these maps unless they wish to *expand* the FHSZ area within their jurisdiction.

Once the LRA maps are [posted](#), local jurisdictions which fall within a FHSZ will have 30 days to make the new maps available for public review and comment, 120 days to adopt the map via local ordinance, and then the ordinance must be transmitted back to the State within 30 days of the adoption of the ordinance.

Cal Cities has prepared a [handout](#) explaining the statutory deadlines to help cities navigate this process. For further questions about the release process for the LRA maps [contact your regional Cal Fire staff](#) or via email at FHSZinformation@fire.ca.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [February 28 from 8 – 10 AM: 10th Annual South Bay Legislative Meet & Greet \(Nakano Theater, Torrance. Assembly Members **Muratsuchi**, **McKinnor**, and **Gipson** are confirmed along with Supervisor **Hahn**](#)
- [March 5 – 7, 2025: Planning Commissioners Academy \(Santa Rosa\)](#)
- [March 6, 2025 from 6 – 8:30 PM: Los Angeles County Division General Membership Meeting \(Southern California Edison, Torrance\)](#). Join the LA County Division for our General Membership meeting featuring an update from **Southern California Edison** on priorities for the coming year and an update on the recovery efforts. Also, **Julia Juarez, director of community outreach for the Department of Insurance**, will present on the CDI's effort to support the region and navigate insurance issues related to the fires.
- [March 19 – 21: Public Works Officers Institute \(Sheraton Universal Hotel, Los Angeles\)](#)
- [April 23-25: City Leaders Summit \(Sacramento\)](#)

View the Cal Cities event calendar at www.calcities.org/events or at LACities.org for Division events.