



Action Items for the 1/20/17 Planning Council Meeting

Action Item 1: Comment Letter to California Department of Education (CDE) on Facilities Revolving Loan Fund

Recommended by the Public Policy and Executive Committee

Background: Performance Measure #2 is increase access to facilities funds. CDE has recently invited comments on the Facilities Revolving Fund which it administers. The current guidelines limit loans to relocatable buildings vs. modular construction or others and some see the current \$210,000 cap on loans as unrealistic in today's real estate market. A Bay Area child care facilities expert, the Redwood City Child Care Coordinator developed a thorough letter to CDE on limitations and potential for the fund. The Public Policy Committee, supported by the Executive Committee, recommend that the Planning Council provide a cover letter to the Redwood City letter and send it to CDE.

Pros: Changes are more likely to be made if multiple regions advocate for the same policy changes.

Cons: CDE may not feel it has authority to implement some of the proposed changes.

Next Steps: Approve the letter and email it to CDE staff.

Action Item 2: Sign onto national Child Care and Early Learning Coalition letter to President Trump

Recommended by the Public Policy Committee and Executive Committee

Background: Great budget and policy changes can be made through advocacy and with the change in the Presidency it is good to advocate for policy priorities. This letter summarizes the rationale for Early Care and Education (ECE) investments long standing federal goals for ECE Advocates such as increasing Child Care and Development Block Grant Funding. Highly regarded groups such as the National Women's Law Center, Children's Defense Fund, NAACP Education Committee, National Association for Education of Young Children (NAEYC) have already signed onto this letter.

Pros: Early Care and Education is still in short supply. National change will require advocacy.

Cons: Alameda County is a relatively small stakeholder relative to the national groups signed on to the letter.

Next Steps: Support the letter and notify the coalition.

Action Item 3: Sign on to California Coalition for Equity in ECE Letter

Recommended by Public Policy Committee

Background: Alameda County has participated in the California Coalition for Equity in Early Care and Education for several years. It is a group that evolved from Bay Area Title 5 Contractors who were grappling with severe financial challenges due to unrealistic state reimbursement rates. Before the Governor's Budget announcement last



week, they wrote this letter to continue to advocate with a unified agenda for several items listed in the letter. The policies are all those that the LPC supports in the Legislative Platform.

Pros: All the proposals in the letter align with the AB 833 pilot or LPC Public Policy Platform.

Cons: Following the announcement of the state budget last week, the letter might need to be updated to have more current background information. For example, the state is projected to have a deficit this year, not eh surplus referenced in prior budget documents.

Next Steps: Support the letter and notify the Coalition staff person.

Action Item 4: Send Letter to Governor Brown on ECE Provisions of Proposed State Budget

Recommended by the Public Policy Committee

Background: Every year the LPC analyses the State Budget and communicates with the Governor on our positions with localized information. Our Platform supports the LPC taking positions on state issues that significantly impact ECE quality, access and affordability.

Pros: The Governor’s Budget proposal is the first step in the budget negotiations which include both fiscal and policy recommendations. Sending a letter ASAP allows us to give feedback early in the process. The “Pause” in budget agreements on increasing provider rates and expanding spaces prohibits the strengthening of the ECE system and there are a couple of major policy proposals which run contrary to the County’s ECE field’s recommendations on quality ECE.

Cons: The budget proposes fewer drastic policy changes this year compared to last year.

Next Steps: Approve the letter and send to the County’s PAL Committee to support and then have lobbyist distribute to legislative leaders.

Action Item 5: Support Parent Voices Homeless Child Care and Wrap Around Services Request to Alameda County

Recommended by the Public Policy Committee

Background: In December the Public Policy Committee reviewed a verbal summary of the Parent Voices request to the County and supports the proposal in general terms. It is a \$4 million request to the County for child care subsidies for parents living in shelters and other support services and playgroups. It thought the dollar amount used to calculate the funds needed for subsidies was low. The LPC Platform supports initiating and promoting efforts to increase local funding for ECE—prioritizing infants and toddlers.

Pros: Alameda County is experiencing an acute housing crisis coupled with an affordable child care crisis.

Cons: The Planning Council does not have experience advocating for County budget resources.



Next Steps: Approve supporting the proposal and those scheduled to make visits to Board of Supervisors can express support for it in upcoming visits.