



Action Items Background for the January 17, 2020 Planning Council Meeting

Action Item #1: Approve Key Points for Letter to Governor Newsom on 2020 Budget Proposal

Recommended by the Executive Committee & Public Policy Committee

Background: Planning Council Performance Measures: #1 Increased ECE Access, #2 Increased Facilities Funds, #3: Increased Quality, #4 Improved Teacher Practices, #5 Increased Member ECE Systems Knowledge, #6 Increased Member Action

Every year California's Governor shares his priorities for state expenditures through the announcement his proposed budget. Annually, the Planning Council writes a letter to the Governor in response to the State Budget guided by the Planning Council's approved annual Public Policy Platform.

The Governor's Budget announced last week on Friday, January 10, 2020, proposes to create a significant new infrastructure for children and families, through a Department of Early Childhood Development, operating out of the Health and Human Services Agency. It would restructure the governance of all subsidized child care serving children birth through age 12 years old. The budget proposal provides additional preschool spaces, and expands funding opportunities for early learning facilities. The Executive and Public Policy Committees recommend sending a letter again this year.

Pros: Sending a letter to the Governor and copying our state delegation gives them baseline, local data and context for understanding how the local ECE landscape would be impacted as a result of the Governor's proposals. This data can help them in their budget advocacy this year and in how programs, such as the New Department of Early Childhood Development, are developed.

Cons: If we did not comment on the Governor's Budget proposal, the Governor's budget staff and our legislators would have less local information to form the baseline for their negotiations about funding and budget related program proposals.

Next Steps: Vote to approve, and forward letter to Board of Supervisors PAL Committee for lobbyist support, the Governor, our delegation, and the Legislative Budget Chairs. Planning Council members can reinforce the Planning Council's message locally, and among statewide groups to potentially influence ECE funding and policy.

Begin tracking budget Subcommittee discussions and other input opportunities and May Revision of budget, which can be an opportunity to refine or revise proposals. For example, this past May 2019, the State accounted for \$3 billion in revenue that was not anticipated in January of 2019 and additional expenditure proposals were made.

Action Item #2: Approve LPC Letters to Appointees to California Early Childhood Policy Council

Recommended by the Executive Committee & Public Policy Committee

Background: Planning Council Performance Measures: #1 Increased ECE Access, #2 Increased Facilities Funds, #3: Increased Quality, #4 Improved Teacher Practices, #5 Increased Member ECE Systems Knowledge, #6 Increased Member Action

On November 22, 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the appointment of 20 members to the state's new Early Childhood Policy Council and advisory committees. The Planning Council with the support of the public policy committee worked to encourage representatives to apply for this post throughout the summer of 2019 and to confirm whom was selected from Alameda County. The Governor also announced the creation of an Early Childhood Action Research Team to develop a Master Plan for Early Learning and Care. It is anticipated that the new Early Childhood Policy Council and the advisory committees will help to inform the Master Plan, as will previous efforts such as the Blue Ribbon Report. The Executive and Public Policy Committees recommend sending a letter to each appointee on the newly established Early Childhood Policy Council to celebrate their appointment and to invite them to consider further engagement with the Planning Council.

Pros: Approving the LPC Letters to Appointees to California Early Childhood Policy Council will further our alignment with the local and State level ECE community and will reinforce the Planning Council's message locally, and at the State level to potentially influence ECE funding and policy.

Cons: By forgoing this outreach, the Planning Council may potentially miss future opportunities for synergistic progress on behalf of our countywide efforts to advance ECE performance measures.

Next Steps: Vote to approve the letters, and send the letters to each of the three appointees from Alameda County. Additionally, the Planning Council will look for ways to engage with the appointees such as inviting them to future Planning Council meetings and committees.