

**REPORT OF THE
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

DATE: February 19, 2020

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections & Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No: 20-0002-S12
Assignment No: 20-02-0136

SUBJECT: Resolution (Buscaino – Martinez – O’Farrell – Price – Rodriguez - Ryu) to SUPPORT any legislation or administrative action which would enact or implement the National League of Cities’ (NLC) “Leading Together Cities Agenda” for the 2020 presidential election.

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Buscaino – Martinez – O’Farrell – Price – Rodriguez - Ryu) to include in the City’s 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program, SUPPORT for any legislation or administrative action which would enact or implement the NLC’s “Leading Together Cities Agenda” for the 2020 presidential election.

SUMMARY

The Resolution (Buscaino – Martinez – O’Farrell – Price – Rodriguez - Ryu), introduced January 24, 2020, advises that the National League of Cities is the collective voice of America’s cities, towns and villages, representing more than 200 million people. The National League of Cities has formulated a “Leading Together Cities Agenda” for the 2020 presidential election which reflects the understanding of Americas’ cities top priorities and concerns. The Agenda is based on such attributes of federal and local cooperation as: Shared Values, Respect, Partnership, Inclusion, Accountability, and a Shared Commitment.

The Resolution further advises that this Agenda seeks to have the President adopt the following four priorities in the first 100 days of the new administration: Building Sustainable Infrastructure, Creating A Skilled Workforce, Ending Housing Instability and Homelessness, and Reducing Gun Violence.

The Resolution recommends that the City support legislation or administrative action which would enact or implement the National League of Cities’ “Leading Together Cities Agenda” for the 2020 presidential election.

BACKGROUND

The National League of Cities (NLC) is an advocacy organization in the United States that represents the country’s 19,000 cities, towns, and villages. The NLC provides training to municipal officials, holds conferences, lobbies, and provides assistance to cities on educational issues. The NLC formed the bipartisan 2020 Presidential Election Task Force from a group of over 30 local leaders from across the country in order to ensure that the priorities of the nation’s communities are a priority during the 2020 presidential election cycle. The taskforce created the Leading Together 2020 Cities Agenda (Agenda). This platform was first unveiled to over 4,000 local elected officials and municipal leaders at NLC’s Annual City Summit Conference in November 2019.

The Agenda asks the President of the United States to make a commitment to the shared values of the NLC. These values include respect, partnership, inclusion, and accountability. The Agenda also asks for a shared commitment to building sustainable infrastructure, creation of a skilled workforce, ending housing instability and homelessness, and reducing gun violence. The NLC recommends that the President adopt these priorities in the first 100 days of the new administration.

The priorities of the shared commitment proposed by the Agenda are further detailed and include the following recommendations:

Building Sustainable Infrastructure

- Partner with local governments to rebuild and fully fund the nation's transportation network, better connect our regions, and innovate with technology and sustainable solutions.
- Provide grants, tools and resources to support local efforts to strengthen infrastructure and make communities safer and more resilient in the face of extreme weather events.
- Make the necessary investments to ensure that reliable, affordable broadband service is available to all Americans, including those in small and rural communities, while eliminating hurdles to local innovation.

Creation of a Skilled Workforce

- Boost investment in and awareness of apprenticeship programs that provide a pathway to successful careers, including industry and sector partnerships and pre-apprenticeship programs for workers with barriers to employment.
- Expand Pell grants and other financial aid programs to cover needed workforce skills training such as short-term programs leading to certificates.
- Create new pathways to successful careers for unemployed and underemployed Americans through expanded investments in skills training and wraparound supports, such as childcare and transportation.

Ending Housing Instability and Homelessness

- Ensure that sufficient federal funding streams are in place, partnerships are enabled and encouraged, and federal funds are appropriated directly to the local level for mental health, drug treatment, and other emergency services.
- Prevent homelessness by providing wraparound services, emergency assistance, and crisis interventions for at-risk individuals and families before they face a crisis.
- Promote housing affordability by advancing new policies to stabilize and stem the loss of public and affordable housing, while authorizing new funding for pilot programs that advance housing for all.

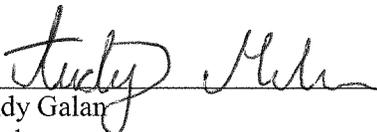
Reducing Gun Violence

- Convene a national commission on gun violence (including elected officials from all levels of government, victims' family members, survivors, gun advocates, law enforcement, and others) to offer recommendations.
- Advance legislation requiring fully federally funded and completed background checks for all gun sales and transfers, consistent with state and local laws.
- Enact federal legislation that would allow judges to issue extreme risk protection orders to reduce firearm-related suicides, murder-suicides, and domestic violence.
- Provide sufficient funding to the Centers for Disease Control to conduct comprehensive research to identify the underlying causes that lead to gun violence and mass shootings in communities.

Adoption of the NLC's Leading Together 2020 Cities Agenda would represent a commitment to the recommendations as provided above.

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

None


Andy Galan
Analyst

Attachments: 1. Resolution (Buscaino – Martinez – O’Farrell – Price – Rodriguez - Ryu)

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the National League of Cities is the collective voice of America’s cities, towns and villages, representing more than 200 million people; and

WHEREAS, the National League of Cities has formulated a “Leading Together Cities Agenda” for the 2020 presidential election which reflects the understanding of Americas’ cities top priorities and concerns; and

WHEREAS, this Agenda is based on such attributes of federal and local cooperation as: Shared Values, Respect, Partnership, Inclusion, Accountability, and a Shared Commitment; and

WHEREAS, this Agenda seeks to have the President adopt the following four priorities in the first 100 days of the new administration:

Building Sustainable Infrastructure:

- ▶ Partner with local governments to rebuild and fully fund the nation’s transportation network, better connect our regions, and innovate with technology and sustainable solutions.
- ▶ Provide grants, tools and resources to support local efforts to strengthen infrastructure and make communities safer and more resilient in the face of extreme weather events.
- ▶ Make the necessary investments to ensure that reliable, affordable broadband service is available to all Americans, including those in small and rural communities, while eliminating hurdles to local innovation.

Creating A Skilled Workforce:

- ▶ Boost investment in and awareness of apprenticeship programs that provide a pathway to successful careers, including industry and sector partnerships and pre-apprenticeship programs for workers with barriers to employment.
- ▶ Expand Pell grants and other financial aid programs to cover needed workforce skills training, such as short-term programs leading to certificates.
- ▶ Create new pathways to successful careers for unemployed and underemployed Americans through expanded investments in skills training and wraparound supports, such as childcare and transportation.

Ending Housing Instability And Homelessness:

- ▶ Ensure sufficient federal funding streams are in place, partnerships are enabled and encouraged, and federal funds are appropriated directly to the local level for mental health, drug treatment and other emergency services.
- ▶ Prevent homelessness by providing wraparound services, emergency assistance and crisis interventions for at-risk individuals and families before they face a crisis.
- ▶ Promote housing affordability by advancing new policies to stabilize and stem the loss of public and affordable housing, while authorizing new funding for pilot programs that advance housing for all.

Reducing Gun Violence:

- ▶ Convene a national commission on gun violence (including elected officials from all levels of government, victims’ family members, survivors, gun advocates, law enforcement, and others) to offer recommendations.
- ▶ Advance legislation requiring fully federally funded and completed background checks for all gun sales and transfers, consistent with state and local laws.
- ▶ Enact federal legislation that would allow judges to issue extreme risk protection orders to reduce firearm-related suicides, murder-suicides, and domestic violence.
- ▶ Provide sufficient funding to the Centers for Disease Control to conduct comprehensive research to identify the underlying causes that lead to gun violence and mass shootings in communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program support for any legislation or administrative action which would enact or implement the components of the National League of Cities’ “Leading Together Cities Agenda” for the 2020 presidential election, as further detailed in the text of this Resolution.

PRESENTED BY: _____

JOE BUSCAINO
Councilman, 15th District

JAN 24 2020

SECONDED BY: _____