



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2015

ITEM NUMBER: NB-2

SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

DATE: JANUARY 22, 2015

FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

PRESENTATION BY: THOMAS R. HATCH, CEO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: DAN BAKER @ (714) 754-5156

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council provide formal approval, per Council Policy 100-8 (Attachment 1) for Mayor Mensinger to attend the annual National League of Cities (NLC) Congressional City Conference, March 7-11 in Washington, D.C. This conference brings together more than 1,000 elected and appointed city leaders to focus on the federal policy issues that are important to local governments.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

NLC is a bipartisan organization dedicated to helping city leaders build better communities. Throughout the year, NLC advocates for municipalities through full-time lobbying and grassroots campaigns. The Congressional City Conference is a unique opportunity for city leaders to join NLC's efforts and advocate on behalf of NLC's federal action priorities that will affect the City of Costa Mesa and communities nationwide.

The conference will include sessions and learning opportunities to gather tangible takeaways on a variety of topics important to the City of Costa Mesa, such as infrastructure, public safety, and current federal regulations. In addition, multiple opportunities will be available for Mayor Mensinger to hear directly from policy makers and leaders on the issues of timely importance. It will also allow the Mayor to garner current information on the federal policies that affect cities, the latest funding opportunities, and emerging practices that can be implemented in Costa Mesa.

In addition, Mayor Mensinger will be participating in strategic policy committees. These committees are designed for peer to peer idea exchanges and for setting and developing the federal policies that are important to cities. The committee meetings at the conference are where local leaders come together and introduce the topics that will be put on the table for debate for the upcoming year. Policy meetings will be held for the following committees at the conference:

- Community & Economic Development
- Energy, Environment & Natural Resources
- Finance, Administration & Intergovernmental Relations
- Human Development
- Information Technology & Communications
- Public Safety & Crime Prevention
- Transportation Infrastructure & Services

Lastly, it is the responsibility and duty of elected officials to stay up-to-date on the latest political news affecting cities. At the Congressional City Conference, Mayor Mensinger will hear directly from administration officials about the federal laws that have the potential to impact Costa Mesa. By attending, Mayor Mensinger will join city leaders at intimate, intensive workshop sessions on topics ranging from economic development to funding opportunities, and more. Meetings will also be scheduled between Mayor Mensinger and some of the Orange County Congressional members.

City CEO Tom Hatch will also be scheduled to attend the NLC conference if the City Council approves this item.

FISCAL REVIEW:

The estimated cost for the mayor to attend will be approximately \$2,500. Appropriations for attendance will come from Fiscal Year 2014-15 contingency funding.

LEGAL REVIEW:

There is no legal review required for this item.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the City Council provide formal approval, per Council Policy 100-8 (Attachment 1) for Mayor Mensinger to attend the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington, D.C., March 7-11. With a new session of Congress just getting underway, it will be vital to share with Costa Mesa's and the nation's legislative representatives what is important to the community.

DANIEL K. BAKER
Public Affairs Manager

THOMAS R. HATCH
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS: 1 [Council Policy 100-8](#)