



**City of Costa Mesa
Legislative Platform**
Adopted September 16, 2025

Strengthen the Public's Safety and Improve the Quality of Life

The City of Costa Mesa will support in principle:

1. Federal and State budgets that promote stability and preserve local control of sales and cannabis taxes
2. Funding and legislation that expands access to Naloxone and decreases Fentanyl trafficking,
3. Legislation that improves safety of bike/scooter riders
4. Legislation that deters catalytic converter, metal, and retail theft
5. Investments in technology improving regional cooperation and real time crime prevention
6. Local oversight and administration of the Emergency Medical Services system, including the design of service areas, contracting for service, and the City's retention of "Section 201" rights to provide ambulance services with the ability to recoup costs
7. Legislation and funding for 911 infrastructure, community paramedicine programs, and incentives to address property and life safety standards (sprinklers, disaster planning, wildfires)
8. Tax incentives and financing tools for community revitalization, housing, and economic development that protects long-term residents and businesses
9. Funding for bikeways, infrastructure, and education to improve safety for riders and drivers
10. Funding for transit, alternative fuel fleets, bike or pedestrian routes, and congestion relief on 55 and 405 freeways aligned with the "Complete Streets" goal to enable safe access for all people, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities.
11. Funding of at-risk youth programs, local arts activities, historic preservation, recreational facilities, preservation and restoration of ecological, biological, and cultural resources; or related programs with our partners (Schools, Non-profits, Community Groups)

Support (continued)

12. Funding and measures that improve air quality

The City of Costa Mesa will oppose in principle:

1. Mandates on local agencies to enforce federal or state law enforcement duties under threat of loss of federal or state funding
2. Limits on local authority to regulate needle and syringe accessibility and exchange programs
3. Elimination or cuts to critical disaster response programs
4. State or county efforts to consolidate ambulance services away from cities, or reductions in Federal or State resources that support emergency and disaster response, preparedness, and training (FEMA, CalOES, US Fire Administration)
5. Efforts to divert local revenues or mandating local agencies take on services without funding or ability to recoup costs via fees
6. Restricting local regulation of group home facilities and residential care facilities in residential neighborhoods, including the application of zoning, building, and safety standards
7. Limits to local authority to review and approve cannabis retail locations, manufacturing sites, or restrictions on the City's general permitting authority of housing and commercial property
8. Reduction in funding for recreational activities, infrastructure, or transportation to facilities and programs
9. Unconditional release of violent or serious repeat offenders

Achieve Long-Term Fiscal Sustainability

The City of Costa Mesa will support in principle:

1. Federal and State budgets that maintain or strengthen services for residents and businesses allowing the City, businesses, and residents to plan and invest for growth
2. Funding or other measures leading to crime reduction and establishment of real time crime centers
3. Funding, equipment, or training to aid in regional response to wildfire and other disasters

Support (continued)

4. Measures that ensure local control of land use decisions, zoning, and development fees
5. Transparency in CalPERS on investment strategy and adoption of contributions rates
6. Local oversight and control of sales and cannabis taxes
7. Funding or measures supporting transit, alternative fuel fleets, and bike or pedestrian routes
8. Investments that relieve congestion on 55 and 405 freeways, improve public safety infrastructure, emergency preparedness, and first responder resources
9. Federal and State grants for recreational services, facilities, and youth programs

The City of Costa Mesa will oppose in principle:

1. Shifting services or responsibility to fund federal and state programs to local agencies without appropriate funding
2. Mandates increasing record retention or non-essential training without commensurate funding to support these activities
3. Limits on establishing or collecting municipal level fines or the use of asset forfeiture to support police services
4. Restrictions on local EMS administration and cost recovery
5. Limits on local control of short-term rentals and applicable fees or taxes
6. Restrictions on development fees or local funding tools for affordable housing
7. Restrictions on local permitting authority or diversion of grant and tax revenue allocations received by cities
8. Restrictions on local fees or revenues that support recreational activities and maintenance of related infrastructure
9. Eliminating programs or funding for transportation that support youth and community members access to facilities and programs

Diversify, Stabilize and Increase Housing to Reflect Community Needs

The City of Costa Mesa will support in principle:

1. Funding for behavioral health, wraparound services, and alternative avenues of health care that reduces the impact on the 911 system and first responders,

Support (continued)

2. Funding and policies to incentivize cities to plan and construct affordable housing and address individuals that are experiencing, or at risk of homelessness
3. Funding for community policing, homeless liaison efforts, and coordination with homeless service providers
4. Fire and life safety codes that enable affordable housing production
5. Funding for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP), and Homekey to promote regional coordination addressing homelessness and housing stability
6. Measures and funding that improve connections between housing and transit to reduce vehicle miles traveled
7. Measures or funding to streamline GIS systems or electronic submittals (plans, licensing, bids)
8. Funding and incentives to incorporate “Complete Streets” and active transportation design elements into housing and commercial developments

The City of Costa Mesa will oppose in principle:

1. Eliminating programs or funding that support the City’s outreach and response to homelessness or restrictions on other wraparound services that constrain the City (street medicine, Homekey, HOME, CDBG)
2. Constraints on local fees and financing tools that assist in the development of affordable housing
3. Restrictions on local fees or tools to provide recreational space in connection with newly approved housing

Maintain and Enhance the City’s Facilities, Technology and Equipment

The City of Costa Mesa will support in principle:

1. Measures and funding to upgrade community facilities, streets, parks, trees, urban forestry, communication infrastructure, and ensure cybersecurity

Support (continued)

2. Federal and State improvements to regional infrastructure (highways, electrical transmission, sustainability, waste removal)

The City of Costa Mesa will oppose in principle:

1. Diversion or reduction of taxes and revenues designated for local and regional capital improvements or infrastructure projects (sales taxes, impact or licensing fees)

Advance Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resiliency

The City of Costa Mesa will support in principle

1. Measures and funding that assist local agencies in the development and implementation of Climate Action and Adaptation Plans and meeting organic waste objectives
2. Incentives for residents and businesses to transition and invest in energy and water efficiency, sustainable energy, and transportation equipment
3. Regional planning and investments in electric vehicle charging infrastructure and zero-emissions equipment
4. Measures and funding to improve air quality and develop urban forestry projects
5. Streamlining clean energy infrastructure permitting for EVs and other energy efficiency projects

The City of Costa Mesa will oppose in principle:

1. Eliminating Federal and State programs for the transition to clean energy infrastructure and facilities
2. Eliminating tax credits or other funding incentives to residents and businesses to pursue energy efficiency or sustainable development