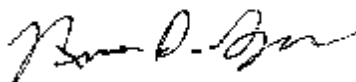


City of Calistoga

Staff Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council
FROM: Richard Spitler, City Manager
DATE: August 5, 2014
SUBJECT: Direction on the 2014 League of California Cities Conference Resolution

APPROVAL FOR FORWARDING:



Richard Spitler, City Manager

1 **ISSUE:** Discuss and provide direction to the City's voting delegates regarding the 2014
 2 League of California Cities Conference Resolution to be considered at the League's
 3 2014 116th Annual Conference September 3 - 5 in Los Angeles.
 4

5 **BACKGROUND:** At the City Council Meeting of June 17, 2014, the Council designated
 6 Mayor Canning as the City's voting delegate and Councilmember Irais Lopez-Ortega as
 7 the City's voting delegate alternate to represent the City of Calistoga at the League's
 8 2014 Annual Conference September 3 – 5 in Los Angeles. An important part of the
 9 event is the Annual Business Meeting. At this meeting, the League membership
 10 considers and takes action on resolutions that establish League policy. There will be
 11 one resolution considered at the meeting as follows:
 12

- 13 1. Environmental impact of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands
 14 throughout California and the increasing problems to public safety related to
 15 these activities.
 16

17 The resolution being considered is outlined in the attached packet. This resolution was
 18 referred to the Environmental Quality Policy Committee. This Policy Committee will be
 19 meeting on Wednesday, September 3rd, to consider the resolution. Their
 20 recommendations are forwarded to the General Resolutions Committee, who will then
 21 make a recommendation to the General Assembly for the Business Meeting and vote
 22 on Friday, September 5, 2014.
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It has been the practice of the City to support the League's recommendations, though if the Council feels differently they are not required to do so. Staff recommends that the Council provide direction to the voting delegate on the attached Resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ATTACHMENT:

1. Annual Conference Resolution Packet



*Annual Conference
Resolutions Packet*

2014 Annual Conference Resolutions



116th Annual Conference

Los Angeles

September 3 - 5, 2014

INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

RESOLUTIONS CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET: The League bylaws provide that resolutions shall be referred by the president to an appropriate policy committee for review and recommendation. Resolutions with committee recommendations shall then be considered by the General Resolutions Committee at the Annual Conference.

This year, one resolution has been introduced for consideration by the Annual Conference and referred to the League policy committees.

POLICY COMMITTEES: Two policy committees will meet at the Annual Conference to consider and take action on the resolution referred to them. The committees are Environmental Quality and Public Safety. These committees will meet on Wednesday, September 3, 2014, at the JW Marriott Hotel in Los Angeles. The sponsor of the resolution has been notified of the time and location of the meetings.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: This committee will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, at the Los Angeles Convention Center, to consider the reports of the two policy committees regarding the resolution. This committee includes one representative from each of the League's regional divisions, functional departments and standing policy committees, as well as other individuals appointed by the League president. Please check in at the registration desk for room location.

ANNUAL LUNCHEON/BUSINESS MEETING/GENERAL ASSEMBLY: This meeting will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, September 5, at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

PETITIONED RESOLUTIONS: For those issues that develop after the normal 60-day deadline, a resolution may be introduced at the Annual Conference with a petition signed by designated voting delegates of 10 percent of all member cities (47 valid signatures required) and presented to the Voting Delegates Desk at least 24 hours prior to the time set for convening the Annual Business Session of the General Assembly. This year, that deadline is 12:00 p.m., Thursday, September 4. If the petitioned resolution is substantially similar in substance to a resolution already under consideration, the petitioned resolution may be disqualified by the General Resolutions Committee.

Resolutions can be viewed on the League's Web site: www.cacities.org/resolutions.

Any questions concerning the resolutions procedures may be directed to Meg Desmond at the League office: mdesmond@cacities.org or (916) 658-8224

GUIDELINES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

Policy development is a vital and ongoing process within the League. The principal means for deciding policy on the important issues facing cities is through the League's eight standing policy committees and the board of directors. The process allows for timely consideration of issues in a changing environment and assures city officials the opportunity to both initiate and influence policy decisions.

Annual conference resolutions constitute an additional way to develop League policy. Resolutions should adhere to the following criteria.

Guidelines for Annual Conference Resolutions

1. Only issues that have a direct bearing on municipal affairs should be considered or adopted at the Annual Conference.
2. The issue is not of a purely local or regional concern.
3. The recommended policy should not simply restate existing League policy.
4. The resolution should be directed at achieving one of the following objectives:
 - (a) Focus public or media attention on an issue of major importance to cities.
 - (b) Establish a new direction for League policy by establishing general principals around which more detailed policies may be developed by policy committees and the board of directors.
 - (c) Consider important issues not adequately addressed by the policy committees and board of directors.
 - (d) Amend the League bylaws (requires 2/3 vote at General Assembly).

LOCATION OF MEETINGS

Policy Committee Meetings

Wednesday, September 3, 2014
JW Marriott Los Angeles Hotel
900 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles

Environmental Quality: 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Public Safety: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

General Resolutions Committee

Thursday, September 4, 2014, 1:00 p.m.
Los Angeles Convention Center
1201 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles

Annual Business Meeting and General Assembly Luncheon

Friday, September 5, 2013, 12:00 p.m.
Los Angeles Convention Center
1201 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles

KEY TO ACTIONS TAKEN ON RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions have been grouped by policy committees to which they have been assigned.

Number	Key Word Index	Reviewing Body Action		
		1	2	3

- 1 - Policy Committee Recommendation to General Resolutions Committee
- 2 - General Resolutions Committee
- 3 - General Assembly

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY POLICY COMMITTEE

		1	2	3
1	Illegal Marijuana Grow Site			

PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE

		1	2	3
1	Illegal Marijuana Grow Site			

Information pertaining to the Annual Conference Resolutions will also be posted on each committee's page on the League website: www.cacities.org. The entire Resolutions Packet will be posted at: www.cacities.org/resolutions.

KEY TO ACTIONS TAKEN ON RESOLUTIONS (*Continued*)

Resolutions have been grouped by policy committees to which they have been assigned.

KEY TO REVIEWING BODIES

1. Policy Committee
2. General Resolutions Committee
3. General Assembly

KEY TO ACTIONS TAKEN

- | | |
|-----|---|
| A | Approve |
| D | Disapprove |
| N | No Action |
| R | Refer to appropriate policy committee for study |
| a | Amend+ |
| Aa | Approve as amended+ |
| Aaa | Approve with additional amendment(s)+ |
| Ra | Refer as amended to appropriate policy committee for study+ |
| Raa | Additional amendments and refer+ |
| Da | Amend (for clarity or brevity) and Disapprove+ |
| Na | Amend (for clarity or brevity) and take No Action+ |
| W | Withdrawn by Sponsor |

ACTION FOOTNOTES

- * Subject matter covered in another resolution
- ** Existing League policy
- *** Local authority presently exists

Procedural Note: Resolutions that are approved by the General Resolutions Committee, as well as all qualified petitioned resolutions, are reported to the floor of the General Assembly. In addition, League policy provides the following procedure for resolutions approved by League policy committees but *not* approved by the General Resolutions Committee:

Resolutions initially recommended for approval and adoption by all the League policy committees to which the resolution is assigned, but subsequently recommended for disapproval, referral or no action by the General Resolutions Committee, shall then be placed on a consent agenda for consideration by the General Assembly. The consent agenda shall include a brief description of the basis for the recommendations by both the policy committee(s) and General Resolutions Committee, as well as the recommended action by each. Any voting delegate may make a motion to pull a resolution from the consent agenda in order to request the opportunity to fully debate the resolution. If, upon a majority vote of the General Assembly, the request for debate is approved, the General Assembly shall have the opportunity to debate and subsequently vote on the resolution.

2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEES

- 1. A RESOLUTION CALLING UPON THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A SUMMIT TO ADDRESS THE DEVASTATING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF ILLEGAL MARIJUANA GROWS ON BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LANDS THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA AND THE INCREASING PROBLEMS TO PUBLIC SAFETY RELATED TO THESE ACTIVITIES BY WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES TO DEVELOP RESPONSIVE SOLUTIONS AND TO SECURE ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR COST-EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES.**

Source: Redwood Empire Division

Concurrence of five or more cities/city officials: Cities of Arcata; Blue Lake; Clearlake; Cloverdale; Crescent City; Eureka; Fort Bragg; Healdsburg; Lakeport; Trinidad; and Ukiah

Referred to: Environmental Quality and Public Safety Policy Committees

Recommendation to General Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, public concerns in response to widespread damage to fish and wildlife resources and degradation to California's environment, and threats to public safety resulting from illegal marijuana cultivation statewide requires urgent action by the Governor and the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, local governments and the public support the State's primary objectives in complying with environmental laws including the Clean Water Act, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and Endangered Species Act and are supported by substantial public investments at all levels of government to maintain a healthy and sustainable environment for future citizens of California, and

WHEREAS, illegal marijuana cultivation activities include habitat destruction and fragmentation, poaching wildlife, illegal water diversions, unregulated use of fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, rodenticides, soil amendments contaminating land and waters without regard for the cumulative impacts to the environment or public health, and

WHEREAS, changing global climate conditions are posing escalated threats in California to health, well-being, nature and property; as evidenced by critical water shortages across the state due to prolonged drought conditions, and

WHEREAS, illegal water diversion for the purpose of cultivating marijuana plantations poses a direct threat to California's endangered and threatened anadromous fish species, including coho salmon, Chinook salmon, steelhead trout and other aquatic species, especially at critical life phases during seasonally low flow conditions; and

WHEREAS, California is a leader in the global effort to fight climate change and is pursuing a broad, integrated strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve energy, yet in a recent Lawrence Livermore Lab study estimated that upwards of 10% of electricity usage statewide can be attributed to indoor marijuana cultivation; these sites are often the causation of fires and home invasion incidents due to criminal activity, and

WHEREAS, the presence of illegal marijuana growing sites on State and federal public lands is creating unsafe conditions for visitors; these lands are taxpayer supported and intended to be managed for recreation, resource conservation and the enjoyment by the public, and

WHEREAS, increasing violence and threats to public safety related to illegal marijuana grows is contributing to a sense of lawlessness and impacting nearby communities where criminal activities are expanding, and

WHEREAS, the issue of illegal marijuana grows has reached a crisis level across the state as evidenced by the murder of former League Board member, Fort Bragg Councilmember and veteran forester Jere Melo who was fatally shot down while investigating a report of a marijuana grow on private timberlands in northern California.

RESOLVED, at the League General Assembly, assembled at the League Annual Conference on September 5, 2014 in Los Angeles, that the League calls for the Governor and the Legislature to work with the League and other stakeholders to convene a summit to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands and the increasing problems to public safety related to these activities.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the League will work with its member cities to educate State and federal officials regarding emerging concerns from their communities and citizenry and to the challenges facing local governments. Therefore, we request the Governor and the Legislature to work with the League to provide responsive solutions with adequate funding support and effective State and federal government leadership to address widespread environmental damage and associated threats to public safety impacting every region in the State of California.

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Background Information on Resolution No. 1

Source: Redwood Empire Division

Background:

When California voters approved Proposition 215 in 1996 there was little thought given to a wide range of problems which have emerged in association with the increased availability and demand for marijuana. Cities within the Redwood Empire Division have grappled with the impacts of illicit marijuana grow sites for decades. Yet in recent years the environmental degradation from marijuana growing operations and public safety threats has grown exponentially. In 2011, Fort Bragg City Council Member Jere Melo was fatally shot while investigating illegal marijuana cultivation on private timber lands in Mendocino County.

Illegal marijuana cultivation activities are causing extreme environmental degradation including habitat destruction and fragmentation, illegal water diversions, killing and poisoning wildlife, unregulated use of fertilizers, pesticides, rodenticides contaminating land and polluting waters without regard for the cumulative impacts to the environment and the public's health and safety. It is expensive to remediate this environmental destruction that often destroys significant, federal, state, local, tribal and private investments in restoring or protecting the surrounding landscape.

Public concern for widespread, landscape-level environmental damage resulting from unregulated growing operations and escalating violent crimes associated with the marijuana industry has reached a tipping point across the state. The Redwood Empire Division joins with other cities throughout the state in a call for action to reverse these trends.

Current Problem Facing California's Cities:

Cities throughout California state have struggled with regulating medical marijuana dispensaries and grow houses along with the associated community impacts of those facilities and land use activities. Many unforeseen environmental impacts and public safety concerns are now emerging as a consequence of increased production and demand for marijuana.

Critical water shortages across the state due to prolonged drought conditions have resulted in the Governor declaring a Drought State of Emergency. Illegal water diversions for the purposes of cultivating marijuana plantations are increasing throughout the state. These activities impact agricultural production and domestic water use. The cumulative impacts to watershed health are considerable and pose direct threats to California's salmon, trout and other sensitive aquatic species, especially at critical life stages during seasonally low flow conditions. In addition, under drought conditions, the risk of fire is elevated. The presence of marijuana grow sites in fire prone areas contributes to potential wildfire risks at the Wildland/Urban Interface.

The presence of illegal marijuana growing sites on state and federal public lands creates unsafe conditions for visitors. These lands are managed with taxpayer support and are intended to be for enjoyment by the public, recreation and conservation. However, the increasing level of violence and threats to public safety related to illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands are contributing to a sense of lawlessness and impacting nearby communities where criminal activities are expanding.

The lack of oversight of marijuana cultivation operations to ensure compliance with existing state and federal environmental regulations is impacting water quality and quantity statewide. The current legal and regulatory framework is inadequate to address numerous environmental issues, as well as public health and safety.

Redwood Empire Division Resolution:

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the rising threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions, and secure adequate funding for implementation strategies.

The issues surrounding marijuana production and distribution are complex and require a comprehensive statewide approach. California cities need to have a strong voice in this process. The mission of the League of California Cities is to enhance the quality of life for all Californians and we believe that our strength lies in the unity of our diverse communities on issues of mutual concern.

//////////

League of California Cities Staff Analysis on Resolution No. 1

Staff: Tim Cromartie (916) 658-8252
Committee: Public Safety Policy Committee

Summary:

This Resolution seeks to highlight the environmental and public safety issues triggered by illegal marijuana cultivation, and calls upon the League, the Governor and the Legislature to take action by convening a summit to address the environmental impacts of such cultivation sites. It also calls upon the State of California to provide solutions in response, including sufficient funding to decisively address the problem.

Background:

The sponsor of this resolution argues that when California voters approved Proposition 215 in 1996, little thought was given to a wide range of problems which have emerged in association with the increased availability and demand for marijuana. Cities within the Redwood Empire Division have grappled with the impacts of illicit marijuana cultivation sites for decades. Yet in recent years the environmental degradation from marijuana growing operations and public safety threats has grown exponentially. In 2011, Fort Bragg City Council Member Jere Melo was fatally shot while investigating illegal marijuana cultivation on private timber lands in Mendocino County.

Illegal marijuana cultivation activities are causing extreme environmental degradation including habitat destruction and fragmentation, illegal water diversions, killing and poisoning wildlife, unregulated use of fertilizers, pesticides, rodenticides contaminating land and polluting waters without regard for the cumulative impacts to the environment and the public's health and safety. It is expensive to remediate this environmental destruction which often destroys significant, federal, state, local, tribal and private investments in restoring or protecting the surrounding landscape.

Critical water shortages across the state due to prolonged drought conditions have resulted in the Governor declaring a Drought State of Emergency. Illegal water diversions for the purposes of cultivating marijuana plantations are increasing throughout the state. These activities impact agricultural production and domestic water use. The cumulative impacts to watershed health are considerable and pose direct threats to California's salmon, trout and other sensitive aquatic species, especially at critical life stages during seasonally low flow conditions. In addition, under drought conditions, the risk of fire is elevated. The presence of marijuana grow sites in fire prone areas contributes to potential wildfire risks at the Wildland/Urban Interface.

The lack of oversight of marijuana cultivation operations to ensure compliance with existing state and federal environmental regulations is impacting water quality and quantity statewide. The current legal and regulatory framework is inadequate to address numerous environmental issues, as well as public health and safety.

Public concern for widespread environmental damage resulting from unregulated growing operations and escalating violent crimes associated with the marijuana industry has reached a tipping point across the state. The Redwood Empire Division joins with other cities throughout the state in a call for action to reverse these trends.

Note: The League of Cities has joined with the California Police Chiefs Association to co-sponsor legislation, SB 1262 (Correa), to establish a regulatory scheme for medical marijuana that protects local control, addresses the public safety concerns triggered by marijuana regulation, and imposes health and safety standards on marijuana for the first time. However, the measure does not address environmental issues, due to the expense and complexity associated with adding that objective to a bill that already has far-reaching regulatory goals combined with a critical need to contain state costs.

Fiscal Impact:

If the policy advocated by the Resolution is implemented by the state, there will be ongoing and unspecified costs to the State General Fund for enforcement activities, primarily in the rural counties where many of the illicit marijuana cultivation sites are located. Conservatively, the annual costs could run in the hundreds of thousands to low millions to patrol likely grow sites, crack down on illegal water diversion activities, and provide consistent environmental clean-up made necessary by illegal rodenticides and pesticides.

Comment:

To assure success, counties will have to be actively involved in any policy change geared toward rigorous and consistent enforcement against illegal marijuana grows, given the fact that many of the cultivation sites are located in rural areas under the direct authority of county governments. This will require a dialogue with counties, during which the question of local political will to enforce the law, in addition to securing the necessary funding, will arise. If counties should opt not to play an active part in an aggressive enforcement strategy, the chances of success are questionable.

Existing League Policy:

Related to this Resolution, existing policy provides:

- The League opposes the legalization of marijuana cultivation and use for non-medicinal purposes.
- Reaffirming that local control is paramount, the League holds that cities should have the authority to regulate medical marijuana dispensaries, cooperatives, collectives or other distribution points if the regulation relates to location, operation or establishment to best suit the needs of the community.
- The League affirms that revenue or other financial benefits from creating a statewide tax structure on medical marijuana should be considered only after the public safety and health ramifications are fully evaluated.

LETTERS OF CONCURRENCE

Resolution No. 1

Illegal Marijuana Grow Site



736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

July 2, 2014

City Manager (707) 822-5953	Environmental Services 822-8184	Police 822-2428	Recreation 822-7091
Community Development 822-5955	Finance 822-5951	Public Works 822-5957	Transportation 822-3775

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The Arcata City Council supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California, and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies. ALL of the rural areas adjacent to the City of Arcata and throughout Humboldt County have been greatly affected by the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows!

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact me at any time at mwheatley@cityofarcata.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Wheatley, Mayor

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division, c/o Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division, via email srounds@cacities.org



CITY OF BLUE LAKE

Post Office Box 458, 111 Greenwood Road, Blue Lake, CA 95525
Phone 707.668.5655 Fax 707.668.5916

June 30, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Blue Lake supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact Lana Manzanita, Mayor Pro-Tem at 707-497-8159 or joe2zither1@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lana Manzanita
Mayor Pro-Tem
City of Blue Lake

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o
Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division,
srounds@cacities.org



City of Clearlake

14050 Olympic Drive, Clearlake, California 95422
(707) 994-8201 Fax (707) 995-2653

July 2, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Clearlake supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies. The City of Clearlake is experiencing significant issues with illegal grows in the city limits. Individuals are squatting on lands not belonging to them and planting large grows. Grows are being planted near and along creeks going through the city with unknown substances potentially leeching into the waterways. Others are renting properties and clear cutting them of oak and other trees for plant sites often without the knowledge of the property owner. Homeowners tell of not being able to enjoy their own properties with grow sites next to them creating untenable odors, spewing of foul language and concern of threats to their personal safety if they complain. We hear often the concern of increased crime due to the grows in the city.

As a member of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact Joan Phillipe at 707-994-8201 x120 or city.administrator@clearlake.ca.us, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joan L. Phillipe
City Manager

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o
Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division,
srounds@cacities.org



June 25, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Cloverdale supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies. Throughout the Redwood Empire region including the City of Cloverdale, illegal marijuana grows negatively impact our environmental health and public safety. Last year, the Cloverdale Police Department eradicated over 300 plants within our City Limits. Please note that Cloverdale is a total of 2.5 square miles. These plants use scarce water resources during a water shortage emergency caused by the current drought and contribute to lawlessness that threatens the public safety of our citizens.

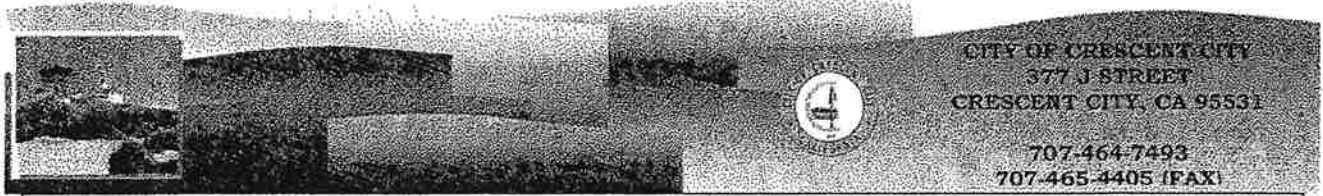
On a personal level, the City of Cloverdale continues to be heartsick for the loss of City of Fort Bragg Council Member JereMelo. Jere was murdered as a result of investigating an illegal marijuana grow. Jere was an exceptional leader in our region, the League of California Cities and the State of California. The City of Cloverdale misses him greatly.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact Cloverdale City Manager Paul Cayler at 707-894-1710, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carol Russell
Mayor
City of Cloverdale

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o
Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division,
srounds@cacities.org



Mayor Rick Holley * *Mayor Pro Tem Ron Gasthauer*
Council Member Richard Enea * Council Member Kelly Schellong * Council Member Kathryn Murray
City Clerk Robin Patch * City Attorney Robert N. Black * City Manager Eugene M. Palazzo

June 23, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

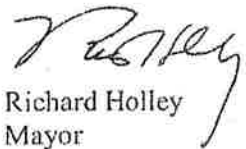
Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Crescent City supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

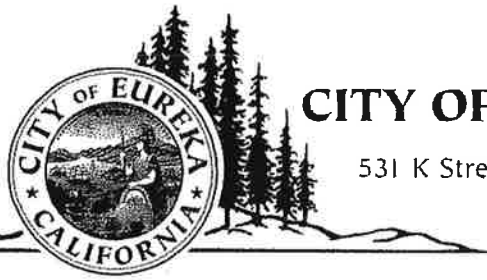
The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies. Illegal marijuana grows have a devastating impact on the State and federal public lands surrounding our community. They create unsafe conditions for our visitors. The use of unregulated fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides and rodenticides contaminate the land and ground water.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact Eugene Palazzo, City Manager at 707-464-7483 ex 232 or epalazzo@crecentcity.org, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Richard Holley
Mayor
Crescent City

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o
Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division,
srounds@cacities.org



CITY OF EUREKA

531 K Street • Eureka, California 95501-1146 • (707) 441-4144
fax (707) 441-4138

CITY MANAGER

June 26, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Eureka supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies. Our city has seen an increase in gang activity and organized crime within the Greater Eureka Area as a result of illegal growing operations. Our law enforcement and community safety have been negatively impacted by these criminal activities.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact City Manager Greg Sparks at 707.441.4140 or gsparks@ci.eureka.ca.gov, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Greg L. Sparks
City Manager
City of Eureka

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o
Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division,
srounds@cacities.org



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

Incorporated August 5, 1889
416 N. Franklin St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Phone: (707) 961-2823
Fax: (707) 961-2802
<http://city.fortbragg.com>

June 23, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution


Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Fort Bragg supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

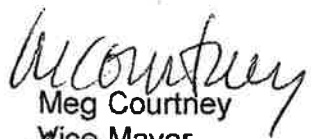
The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies. The City of Fort Bragg lost City Councilmember and former Mayor Jere Melo in August 2011 when he walked into an illegal grow site and was shot and killed by the person guarding said site.


As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact City Manager Linda Ruffing at 707-961-2823 or lruffing@fortbragg.com, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Dave Turner
Mayor


Scott Deitz
Councilmember


Meg Courtney
Vice Mayor


Doug Hammerstrom
Councilmember


Heidi Kraut
Councilmember

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division, srounds@cacities.org



CITY OF HEALDSBURG ADMINISTRATION

401 Grove Street
Healdsburg, CA 95448-4723

Phone: (707) 431-3317

Fax: (707) 431-3321

Visit us at www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us

June 30, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Healdsburg supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact me either by phone at (707) 431-3317 or by e-mail at jwood@ci.healdsburg.ca.us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James D. Wood".

James D. Wood
Mayor
City of Healdsburg

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division
c/o Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager,
LOCC Redwood Empire Division, srounds@cacities.org

CITY OF LAKEPORT

*Over 100 years of community
pride, progress and service*



July 1, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACTS OF ILLEGAL MARIJUANA GROWS RESOLUTION

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Lakeport supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact me at (707) 263-5615, Ext. 12 or by email at kparlet@cityoflakeport.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Parlet, II
Mayor

cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o
Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division, srounds@cacities.org

CITY OF TRINIDAD

P.O. Box 390
409 Trinity Street
Trinidad, CA 95570
(707) 677-0223
Fax: (707) 677-3759



July 2, 2014

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Trinidad supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Fulkerson".

Julie Fulkerson
Mayor

Cc: Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division

June 30, 2014

City of Ukiah
City Manager



JUL 21 2014

RECEIVED

José Cisneros, President
League of California Cities
1400 K Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Environmental and Public Safety Impacts of Illegal Marijuana Grows Resolution

Dear President Cisneros:

The City of Ukiah supports the Redwood Empire Division's effort to submit a resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at the League's 2014 Annual Conference in Los Angeles.

The Division's resolution seeks to address the devastating environmental impacts of illegal marijuana grows on both private and public lands throughout California and the increasing threat to public safety relating to these illegal sites. The resolution will provide the League with the direction to call upon the Governor and State Legislature to convene a summit to develop responsive solutions and to secure adequate funding for implementation strategies.

As members of the League, our city values the policy development process provided to the General Assembly. We appreciate your time on this issue. Please feel free to contact Jane Chambers, City Manager, at 7407-463-6210 or jchambers@cityofukiah.com, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Philip E. Baldwin
Mayor

Mary Anne Landis
Vice Mayor

Benj Thomas
Councilmember

Douglas F. Crane
Councilmember

Steve Scalmanini
Councilmember

Cc: Kathryn Murray, President, Redwood Empire Division c/o
Sara Rounds, Regional Public Affairs Manager, LOCC Redwood Empire Division,
srounds@cacities.org