

BILL MARATHON BEGINS

Friday, May 31st is the deadline for the Assembly and Senate to pass bills introduced in their house of origin. The Assembly has approximately 350 bills pending, while the Senate has approximately 300 bills to act upon before the May 31st deadline.

One bill not pending on the Assembly Floor is Assembly Bill 5 by Assembly Member Ammiano, relating to homelessness, as the bill was held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee's Suspense File May 24th and is dead for the remainder of the year. The Committee's staff fiscal analysis on AB 5 indicated costs to the state, local governments and law enforcement to be "in the hundreds of millions," ample reason for the Committee to hold the bill.

Among the other bills of interest to CARPD pending prior to the May 31st deadline include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Assembly Bill 265(Gatto): Relating to limited liability for owners/operators of dog parks, AB 265 has already passed the Assembly and is pending in the Senate and not subject to the May 31st deadline: CARPD supports AB 265;
2. Assembly Bill 537(Bonta): Relating to the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act impasse procedures, AB 537 would authorize the representative of the public agency or the employee organization, if they fail to reach an agreement, to request mediation and, would further, require the parties to agree upon the appointment of a mediator mutually agreeable to the parties within 5 days of a request by one of the parties. If the parties fail to agree on the selection of a mediator within 5 days, AB 537 would provide that either party may request the appointment of a mediator. AB 537 is pending on the Assembly Floor and CARPD's position is pending;
3. Assembly Bill 729(R. Hernandez): Relating to evidentiary privileges/union agent-represented worker privilege, this measure would provide that a union agent, and a represented employee or represented former employee have a privilege to refuse to disclose any confidential communications between the employee or former employee and the union agent while the union agent was acting in his/her representative capacity. AB 729 is pending on the Assembly Floor, and due to recent amendments, CARPD's position is pending;
4. Assembly Bill 1235(Gordon): This measure would require, if a local agency provides any type of compensation, salary, or stipend to, or reimburse the expenses of, a member of the legislative body, all local agency officials, except a member whose term of office ends before January 1, 2015, in local agency service as of January 1, 2014 or thereafter, receive training in financial management. Local agencies may utilize locally developed financial management materials for the training or consultation with the State Treasurer's or State Controller's Offices regarding the content of the course material. AB 1235 is pending on the Assembly Floor and CARPD's position is pending;
5. Senate Bill 700(Wolk): This bill would have placed a fee on single-use carryout bags, with a portion of the revenues going to cities/counties for park-related functions. Special district parks would be eligible for a grant provided they provided park services to a city. Update: SB 700 was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee's Suspense File on May 23rd and is dead for the year;

6. Senate Constitutional Amendment #11(Hancock): This is the constitutional amendment proposing to reduce the local vote requirement for special taxes from 2/3rds to 55%. To reach a future statewide ballot, SCA 11 must pass both houses of the Legislature by a 2/3rds vote. Update: SCA 11 has passed the Senate Governance and Finance Committee and is pending in the Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee. Constitutional amendments are not subject to the normal legislative deadlines.

STATE BUDGET UPDATE

Both houses are expected to complete their budget subcommittee recommendations based on the Governor's May Revision the week of May 28th and convene a Budget Conference Committee shortly thereafter. The Constitutional deadline for the Legislature to pass the budget is June 15th, and all indications are they will meet that deadline.

Given the Governor's May Revision pegged the revenue surplus at \$2.8 billion, whereas the Legislative Analyst projected \$3.2 billion, there will be some disagreements between the Legislature and Governor over increased spending, mostly in the education and health/human services areas, as the Legislature is proposing to increase spending in those areas above that proposed in the Governor's May Revision. That sound you hear is the Governor sharpening his supply of blue pencils, which he vowed to utilize, reducing spending above his May Revision priorities.