



LOCAL

LEAVE OUR COMMUNITY ASSETS LOCAL

*Dedicated to Protecting Funding for Police, Fire, Health
and other Essential LOCAL Services*



www.calocal.org

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CONTACT: KATHY FAIRBANKS
916.443.0872 or 916.813.1010 (cell)

LOCAL Coalition Statement in Response to Governor's May Revise

Sacramento – *Representatives of the LOCAL coalition issued the following statement today in response to the Governor's May Budget Revision.*

"The LOCAL Coalition knows the Governor faces tough choices as he grapples with the state's multi-billion dollar deficit. We are pleased that he has taken steps in his May Budget Revision to protect the vital services provided by local governments.

"In particular, we applaud the Governor's full restoration of Prop. 42 transportation funds, which will help repair dilapidated local streets and roads and improve the daily commutes of California residents. We also appreciate the Governor's proposal to expedite repayment of the VLF loan owed to local governments.

"However, LOCAL does have concerns about budget hits on local governments above and beyond the \$2.6 billion we agreed to as part of the 2004 local government agreement and Proposition 1A.

"Specifically, we are concerned about budget proposals that would delay the repayment of mandate reimbursements owed to local governments from 5 to 15 years as well as pass along hundreds of millions of dollars in reductions to county health and human services.

"As part of the agreement to place Prop 1A on the ballot last year, cities, counties and special districts agreed to give up \$1.3 billion last year and this year (total of \$2.6 billion) to help ease the state budget deficit. These revenues are on top of the more than \$5 billion each year in local property taxes that go to fund the state's obligations. These shifts have a very real impact on local governments and the residents who rely on the public safety, healthcare, water, transportation, and other vital local services they deliver. Clearly, local governments and local services are contributing to this year's budget solutions as well as future budgets.

"In November of 2004, a resounding 84% of California voters passed Proposition 1A – delivering an unequivocal message that they want to put an end to state actions that erode local revenues. We will continue to work with state lawmakers and the Governor to craft a budget that is fair and ensures the will of the voters is upheld by protecting funding for vital local services."

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Leave Our Community Assets Local (LOCAL Coalition) – *The LOCAL coalition is made up of more than 300 organizations around the state representing police and fire, health and emergency care professionals, business groups, seniors, local governments, taxpayers and community groups. The members of LOCAL will be diligent in efforts to ensure legislators recognize the impact of these proposals on the constituents they were elected to represent. LOCAL will work at the grassroots level to ensure California residents are made fully aware of the impact of legislators' decisions on their local services.*