



Sacramento City Council

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COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON LAW & LEGISLATION

DOUGLAS N. POPE
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DAVID M. SHORE
LYNN ROBIE
WILLIAM A. SMALLMAN

MINUTES OF LAW AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

January 23, 1986

4:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Councilman Bill Smallman. Dave Shore arrived at 4:15 p.m. Terry Kastanis and Lynn Robie were absent.

Revisions to the City Towing Policy. Monika Hudson of General Services was present to discuss this issue.

Bill Smallman stated his concern about cars being towed from private property. He said that he often hears of people who have had their cars towed away and their valuables were inside the car. At present, there is no way of knowing which of the many towing companies have towed the car, or where the car was taken; they just come out and the car (with its valuables) is gone.

Ms. Hudson stated that there are 19 companies in Sacramento who tow. The revisions include trying to go with one single approach for all companies. She plans to get together with all of the companies and present these revisions and get their feedback. She stated she would bring up this matter when she meets with them.

Diane Balter, Deputy City Attorney, stated she thought it was required that private towing companies notify the police before taking a vehicle. It was agreed that this is true, but that it is not always done, and, in fact, often takes two or more hours after a vehicle has been towed for the police to be notified.

Dave Shore mentioned the problem with retrieving the towed vehicles from the towing companies, since the companies do not accept checks. He feels something should be done about making it easier to get a vehicle back.

There was some discussion about cars being towed from near the Convention Center and also about problems with the "Loop" area of Sacramento.

It was unanimously agreed to support the proposed revisions to the City towing policy.

Suggested Position Statement on Potential Gramm-Rudman Reductions and Other Proposed Federal Budget Rescissions, Deferrals, and Cuts Affecting the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency. This was an add-on item presented by the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency. Bill Egar was present to discuss this matter, and he stated that he had been working with Terry Kastanis on this matter.

Mr. Edgar explained that there are some proposed cuts in the federal budget relating to housing and redevelopment, and HRDA is asking Council to draft a letter to be signed and sent by the Mayor. He stated they acknowledge there will be cuts, but they wish to make a strong case for the fact that additional unilateral cuts beyond that in the President's budget should not be prematurely assumed to be approved. He stated that the cuts could result in a drop from 35 Million Dollars to 17 Million Dollars in two years, and that they need to exert as much pressure as possible to avoid this.

Dave Shore moved, Bill Smallman seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that this matter would be forward to the full Council with their recommendation that the Mayor send a strongly worded letter expressing our serious concerns about the proposed federal budget cuts.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

jmv