

Land Use and Environment

www.ca-ilg.org/landuse

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"Man shapes himself through decisions that shape his environment."

René Dubos

What We Do and Why

Cities and counties can have enormous impact in shaping the physical environment of neighborhoods and communities and the health and well-being of their residents. They do this in a number of ways: through their land use plans, through investments in public facilities, and through efforts to conserve natural resources and preserve open space and farmland.

The Institute's Land Use and Environment Program provides resources to support local officials in their efforts to plan and develop healthy communities that are socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable.

Resources Include:

- *The Basics of SB 375: Transportation, Housing and Greenhouse Gases*
- *Building Public Support for Affordable Housing: A Toolbox for California Officials*
- *An Ounce of Prevention: Best Practices for Making Informed Land Use Decisions*
- *Avoiding Litigation in Land Use Decision-making*
- *Financing Open Space Preservation*
- *Farmland Preservation Guide*
- *Understanding the Habitat Conservation Planning Process in California*
- *Land Use One-Pagers*
- *The Name Game: Housing Related Acronyms and Terms*

Program Spotlight: Addressing Climate Change through Local and Regional Planning

AB 32, California's Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, gives the California Air Resources Board authority over sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including cars and light trucks.

Senate Bill 375 builds on the existing regional planning framework to align plans for housing with transportation plans in an effort to reduce GHG emissions from motor vehicle trips.

Because SB 375 maintains local authority over land use and because the existing regional planning process is overseen by local elected officials selected by their peers to serve on regional agency boards, the success of SB 375 relies on the actions taken by local officials.

ILG is working with the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties to provide local officials with resources to help them carry out these new responsibilities.

Related Institute Programs

- California Climate Action Network (CCAN)
- Collaborative Governance Initiative (CGI)



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Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

About the Institute for Local Government

The Institute

- Promotes good government at the local level
- Supports well-informed, effective, inclusive and responsive leadership

How We Make a Difference

As the nonprofit research affiliate of the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties, the Institute provides information, skills and resources to the entire range of city and county officials. The Institute's vision is communities with high levels of trust and confidence in their leaders, where the issues of the day are addressed effectively and collaboratively.

Key Program Areas

- Climate Change
- Civic Engagement (Collaborative Governance Initiative)
- Communities for Healthy Kids
- Intergovernmental Conflict Resolution
- Land Use and Environment
- Local Government 101
- Public Service Ethics

What We Do

- Identify and analyze cutting-edge challenges and trends affecting local government
- Develop practical, easy-to-use tools for local officials, including tip sheets, local agency association magazine columns and technical guides
- Provide a wealth of materials online at www.ca-ilg.org
- Offer training to local officials, including regionally and through local agency associations
- Provide services to individual agencies on a fee basis

Budget

The Institute has an annual budget of \$1.8 million, leveraging local agency association resources at a one-to-three ratio (see pie chart for funding mix).

Leadership

15-Member Board of Directors plus Liaisons with League and CSAC Board of Directors

Over a Half Century of Service to Local Officials

Founded in 1955, the Institute has served local officials for more than 50 years.

