



Thomas  
Jefferson

## Planning District Commission

Sustainable solutions to regional issues

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## MEMO

**To:** TJPD Commissioners  
**From:** David C. Blount, Legislative Liaison  
**Date:** September 3, 2009  
**Reference:** 2010 TJPD Legislative Program

**Purpose:** This memo provides an update on development of the regional legislative program and invites discussion from the Commission on legislative priorities. A draft of the proposed 2010 priorities is “in progress” and is attached for your review.

**Background:** Development of the regional legislative program is well underway. Staff has appeared before each local governing body and has had other discussions with locality staff to receive input and recommendations into the program. Per direction from our legislators several years ago, the program continues to developed earlier than in the past and legislative positions are being prioritized as a region.

**Issues:** The gloomy budget outlook at the state level and the impact of that on localities will be the top legislative priority for 2010 and likely beyond. There will be additional reductions in state aid at the same time cost pressures continue to build, but the state should not shift costs to or extend mandates on localities. State education funding, was reduced by more than \$600 million during the past legislative session and is a prime target for cutting again, also will be a focus. Given summer legislative study committee discussions about growth areas and proffers/impact fees, local land use authority also will continue to be emphasized.

**Action Needed:** Discuss the draft legislative program priorities and provide any input to staff on priorities and content.

**Effective Date:** Staff will present a final draft to the local governing bodies and the Commission in October. Legislators are being polled about several mid-October dates for our annual gathering with them to present the legislative priorities.