



Municipal Advocacy Goals 2019-2020

Public Infrastructure

- Seek legislation granting local governments the authority to build broadband infrastructure and to partner with private internet service providers using long-term infrastructure leases.
- Seek legislation to ensure that the amount of Powell Bill funds appropriated by the state are sustained and distributions to municipalities are increased and grow over time.
- Seek legislation to boost funding availability for public transit and transportation programs.
- Seek legislation to provide additional grant funding to municipalities for equipment and facility needs for public safety (fire, police, EMS).
- Support measures, such as additional funding, to enhance cities' ability to meet federal and state stormwater control mandates.
- Seek legislation to provide municipalities with authority for additional locally controlled revenue options and flexibility in the use of those options, including – but not limited to – city-only sales tax, city occupancy taxes, prepared meals taxes, and impact fees for transportation.
- Seek legislation that supports adequate, fair school funding between state and county in all school systems across the state by repealing municipal authority to fund schools.
- Support legislation which defends the fiscal integrity of the Local Government Employees' Retirement System and its defined benefit structure, promotes reasonable pension reforms that are prospective in nature, and meets the needs of local employees, employers, and retirees.
- Support legislation that will provide sufficient funding at the state level for incentive programs such as a competitive film incentive program, state historic preservation tax credits, and the Main Street Solutions fund necessary to grow jobs and the economy.
- Only support legislation providing additional post-employment benefits to public employees that includes a funding mechanism to fully support the cost and liability of the benefit and support the study of existing post-employment benefits, such as special separation allowance programs, to ensure that the liability of providing the benefit isn't solely borne by the last employer.

Fiscal Health and Economic Growth

- Seek legislation that provides additional tools and financial resources for addressing the affordable housing crisis.
- Seek legislation to alter the current statutes governing distribution of local sales taxes by requiring a one-year delay in implementation when a county or the legislature changes its method of distributing sales tax revenue.

Fiscal Health and Economic Growth (cont.)

- Support legislation to revise the current methods of determining economic needs that are used by the state to allocate funds so that additional areas of the state in need may benefit from increased economic development, jobs, and see more entrepreneurial innovation.
- Support a system of spirituous liquor sales that maintains a local referendum about the decision to sell, preserves local control over the location and density of outlets, and preserves the local revenue stream.



Municipal Authority

- Oppose legislation that shifts to taxpayers the costs of overseeing development and completing development-initiated infrastructure.
- Oppose legislation that interferes with local management or ownership of local assets.
- Seek changes to the law governing the disclosure and release of law enforcement recordings to clarify that disclosure to a municipal manager is allowed and to allow disclosure to a city or town council or citizen review board in a closed session and under confidentiality agreements.

