



2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

AIDS, REVENUES AND TAXES

Metro Cities supports:

- Simplifying construction materials sales tax exemption.
- Local Government Aid (LGA) formula updates and appropriation increase.
- Removing state salary cap on local public employees.
- Increasing homestead market value exclusion to qualifying homeowners.

DUTY DISABILITY

Metro Cities supports:

- Full funding for Public Safety Officer Benefit Account.
- Reimbursing cities for paid time to public safety employees seeking treatment for a work-related mental injury and funding for early intervention and mental health treatment.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Metro Cities supports funding for the Minnesota Investment Fund, Job Creation Fund, Redevelopment Grant Program, and programs that develop and support the region's workforce.

ENVIRONMENT

Metro Cities supports resources to address PFAS/PFOS and ongoing funding to address emerald ash borer (EAB).

HOUSING

Metro Cities supports:

- State resources to address local housing needs, including incenting home ownership, housing preservation, and programs that support racial equity in homeownership.
- Statutory clarity on local infrastructure fees to serve new residential development.
- Preserving local authority over land use decisions.
- Findings of a 4d study and the need for addressing effects of a 4d expansion on existing taxpayers.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT & JOBS ACT (IIJA) MATCH

Metro Cities supports the appropriation of state matching funds required as a part of the federal infrastructure law and state appropriations to local governments to help cities compete for IIJA funded grant programs.

LOCAL AUTHORITY

Metro Cities supports:

- Local decision making, including over local land uses, city budgets and public rights of way.
- Laws to increase efficiencies in election administration.

METROPOLITAN INFLOW-INFILTRATION MITIGATION

Metro Cities supports a capital appropriation to assist metropolitan cities with local inflow-infiltration mitigation.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Metro Cities supports state resources to address street racing, carjackings, and catalytic converter theft and enhance coordination among law enforcement agencies in addressing these crimes. Metro Cities recognizes the importance of effective diversion programs to modify behavior and reduce recidivism.

RACE EQUITY

Metro Cities supports state resources to assist with data collection and information sharing to help ensure informed decision making at all levels of government and help advance racially equitable outcomes.

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

Metro Cities supports:

- Appointment of Metropolitan Council members by the Governor with four-year staggered terms.
- Increasing opportunities for local official input into the nominating process for Metropolitan Council members and enhancing transparency in the selection process.

THC LAW AND REGULATION

Metro Cities supports efforts to address a state regulatory framework for the new tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) law, that includes clear licensing, inspection, enforcement, public health, and reporting requirements and maintains local authority over local licenses, restrictions, fees, and zoning.

TRANSPORTATION and TRANSIT

Metro Cities supports:

- Resources for the Local Road and Local Bridge, Corridors of Commerce, and Local Road Wetland Replacement, and investment in Municipal State Aid Street (MSAS) system.
- Funding for the Small Cities Assistance Account and a Large Cities Account.
- Allowing cities to create street improvement districts.
- A comprehensive regional transit system supported by state and regional sources.
- Policies that allow providers to adequately address local transit service needs.