



Legislative Update

As reported in Metro Cities May 26th newsletter, the 2017 special session of the Legislature concluded early last Friday morning. Governor Dayton has now signed omnibus budget and tax bills. The Governor vetoed an omnibus pensions bill that contained employment mandate preemption language. The Governor also line-item vetoed the FY18-19 appropriation to fund the Legislature, in the omnibus State Government bill. This action could spur a legal challenge by the Legislature, based on questions of constitutionality around the separation of powers between the Executive and Legislative branches.

In a letter to legislators about the line item veto, the Governor noted he would not veto the tax bill, despite strong objections to some of its provisions, because of a provision included in the State Government bill that would have defunded the Department of Revenue should a tax bill not be enacted. The Governor expressed concern about other provisions in bills that he believes need to be addressed in any special session, including tax breaks for tobacco and an increase in the estate tax exclusion that were included in the tax bill.

Metro Cities will provide a comprehensive legislative session update early next week.

MCES Customer Forum: 2018 Budget

The second of two Metropolitan Council Environment Services (MCES) customer budget forums will be held next Thursday, June 8th. The forum will provide an opportunity discuss and take input on MCES services, current topics, and upcoming rates. Time will be available for city officials and staff to meet with MCES staff regarding questions they may have about the Municipal Wastewater Charge (MWC) and how it is calculated. Details are as follows:

Thursday, June 8, from 1:30-3:30 pm at the Metro Cities/LMC building
(145 University Ave W, St. Paul)

The forum is open to all staff and elected officials. To attend, RSVP to Kristin Hess at kristin.hess@metc.state.mn.us or 651-602-1016.

Metro Cities Policy Committees

Calling all interested city officials and staff! Metro Cities policy committees, which are approaching this summer, are open to city staff as well as elected officials. The form to sign-up can be found [HERE](#). Whether you are new to the process or have participated in a committee in the past, we welcome your participation in one or more of the committees in 2017.

The committees and dates are listed on our website [here](#), along with updates and additional information as it becomes available. All meetings take place at the Metro Cities/League of MN Cities building from 11:00-1:30pm.

Please consider serving, and encourage other staff and officials within your city to do the same!

Contact Kimberly with any questions, and email your sign-up form to kimberly@metrocitiesmn.org.

Metro Cities Breakfast at the June LMC Annual Conference

If you're attending the 2017 LMC Annual Conference in June in Rochester at the Mayo Civic Center, plan to join your metro colleagues for breakfast on Friday, June 16th at 7:30 am. This is a great chance to mingle with other Metro Cities members and to hear a brief update from Metro Cities staff on Capitol issues, the Met Council, and the legislative session.

If you're able to join us, please let Kimberly know at 651-215-4000 or kimberly@metrocitiesmn.org.

We hope to see you there!

Metro Cities News is emailed periodically to all Metro Cities member mayors, councilmembers, city managers and administrators to keep officials abreast of important metro city issues. This information is also intended to be shared with city staff.

If you'd like to sign up to receive Metro Cities News, please email newsletter@metrocitiesmn.org and provide the following: Name, Title, Employer and Email address. Thank you.

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