



Small Cell Wireless Legislation Update and Timelines

Two important dates are approaching related to the small cell wireless laws enacted in the 2017 legislative session. Cities working on co-location agreements for the siting of small cell facilities must complete them and make them available to the public six months after enactment, or by November 30th, 2017. Co-location agreements can include a definition of scope and permitted uses, rental fees, and terms of removal. They are not required, and cities can include similar provisions in a permit or ordinance.

The new law also includes a ban on local moratoriums related to small cell placement. This provision becomes effective on January 1st, 2018. If a city plans to adopt an enabling ordinance in response to the new small cell legislation, they should do so before January 1st. A city's legal counsel can help determine any needed changes to local ordinances to comply with the law. The League of MN Cities has prepared additional information, including model ordinance information, on the new law. Please click [here](#) for that information.

Questions? Please contact Steve Huser at steven@metrocitiesmn.org or 651-215-4003.

Met Council Studying Options to Preserve Manufactured Home Parks

The Metropolitan Council is [reviewing strategies](#) to preserve manufactured home parks in the region and has identified manufactured housing as an important category of existing affordable housing. At this week's Committee of the Whole, the Council reviewed work to date on the issue. This initiative, called the Manufactured Home Park (MHP) Preservation Project, included two parts. The [MHP Preservation Report](#) evaluated the state of the region's manufactured home parks. The second part was a pilot program grant, aimed at preserving manufactured home parks. In August, the Council awarded \$235,000 to Maple Hill Estates in Corcoran, to defray part of the cost of connecting to the regional wastewater system.

Council staff presented several options for continued preservation options by the Council that could possible include Sewer Availability Charge (SAC) deferrals for MHPs, encouraging cities to include MHP preservation strategies in local comp plan updates, evaluating the pilot grant program, evaluating an MHP SAC discount, allowing MHPs to be eligible for Livable Communities grants, exploring options for private inflow-infiltration (I/I) or investing in an infrastructure fund, and expanding the MHP pilot. Metro Cities will continue to closely monitor this work. Metro Cities' policies on SAC oppose using SAC to subsidize Metropolitan Council goals and objectives.

Contact Charlie Vander Aarde at 651-215-4001 or charlie@metrocitiesmn.org with any questions.

Legislative Committee to Hear Bill Requiring Approval of Local Housing Goals

The House Job Growth and Committee next Monday will hear HF 1037-Vogel, that would require statutory approval of local housing goals. These goals, negotiated every ten years between cities and the Metropolitan Council, are voluntary and negotiated to access grant funding under the Livable Communities Programs (LCA). The legislation would require that local housing goals be submitted each year to the Legislature and stipulate that local goals could be adopted only after

legislative approval or if the Legislature adjourns without acting. The bill would also require statutory approval of any housing element of a regional development framework and require the Met Council to report ALHOA (affordable/life Cycle Housing Opportunities Amounts) that represent local funding commitment for these types of housing opportunities as part of LCA participation. Metro Cities' understanding is that all participating communities meet the established amounts.

Metro Cities opposes the insertion of statutory approval over the local housing goals that are negotiated at the local-regional level, are voluntary and negotiated for the purposes of accessing regional grant programs. Please contact Patricia Nauman at 651-215-4002 or patricia@metrocitiesmn.org with any questions or for further information.

Comprehensive Planning Forum

Thanks to the 50+ city officials who participated in Metro Cities' forum on local comprehensive planning last Friday. Special thanks also to city staff from Saint Louis Park, Burnsville, Brooklyn Park and Shoreview for presenting information on their city's approaches to planning and to Lisa Barajas from the Metropolitan Council for her presentation on comprehensive planning basics, frequently asked questions and regional requirements. Metro Cities staff have received positive feedback from attendees on the content and information provided at the forum. Forum materials was compiled for attendees and will be posted soon our website, or if you would like a hard copy of the materials, please email Sarah Fredericks at sarah@metrocitiesmn.org

Policy Committees Wrapping Up

This week marks final policy committee meetings for 2017. Committees were well attended, well chaired, and saw robust discussion on a variety of issues. Metro Cities greatly appreciates the time and effort that city officials put in to participate in this process. The recommended policies will be considered and approved by the Board of Directors in October.

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.

