2018 Legislature Adjourns Sine Die; Governor Vetoes Tax and Supplemental Budget Bills

The 2018 regular legislative session concluded on Sunday, May 20th just before midnight. Over the weekend, and up until the time of adjournment, legislators passed key bills including capital investment bills, a supplemental budget bill, a K-12/tax conformity bill, and a pensions bill. On Wednesday, Governor Dayton vetoed the tax and supplemental budget bills. In a press conference Sunday, the Governor had warned that he would be vetoing the tax and budget bills if they remained in their current forms. The veto letters can be found here and here.

The Governor has not yet acted on the capital investment bill that was passed on Sunday. The link to the bill can be found here.

This session, Metro Cities advocated for capital investment funding for metro infiltration-mitigation, transportation funding, economic development funding preservation, capital funds for housing, and other issues. The organization advocated on behalf of metro cities’ interests on several bills that were considered that have significant implications for local authority.

Metro Cities will provide a comprehensive legislative update next week.

Metro Cities Policy Committees

It’s time to join Metro Cities’ Policy Committees! Policy Committees meet in July, August, and September and cover four different policy areas: Transportation and General Government, Municipal Revenues, Metropolitan Agencies, Housing and Economic Development. Policy Committees recommend legislative policies for the next legislative session, and those policies serve as a foundation for our work at Metro Cities. Being part of a Policy Committee is a great opportunity for your city to have a voice in the processes for the policies as well as at the legislature. Please note there are NEW times for committees, as well as a NEW date change for the Housing and Economic Development Committee.

Policy committees are open to city staff as well as elected officials and the form to sign-up can be found on our website. 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 2018.

Changes This Year:
• Committees will meet either Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday in the morning from 9:00-11:30 am or the afternoon from 1:00-3:30. We hope this change will be beneficial for planning your schedules! The committees and dates are listed on our website here, and updates and additional information will be posted on these pages as it becomes available.
• This year we ask that you actively sign up for the committee(s) you wish to attend, even if you have been on the committee in the past. You are NOT automatically signed up for this year if you were on a committee last year. This will help us keep our rosters current and correct!

All meetings take place at the Metro Cities/League of MN Cities building at 145 University Avenue West, St. Paul.

Please consider serving, and encourage other staff and officials within your city to do the same!
Metro Cities Breakfast at the June LMC Annual Conference

If you’re attending the 2018 LMC Annual Conference in June in St. Cloud at the Rivers Edge Convention Center, plan to join your metro colleagues for breakfast on Friday, June 22nd at 7:30 am. The Metro Cities breakfast will be held in the Weidner Room on the first floor of the River’s Edge Convention Center. This is a great chance to mingle with other Metro Cities members and to hear a brief update from Metro Cities staff.

If you’re able to join us, please let Kimberly know as soon as possible 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.