

City Priorities in the 2012 Legislative Session

Issue (Priority)	Status
Local Government Aid	<p>Passed; The enacted Tax Bill freezes LGA at 2012 distribution levels for 2013 for cities over 5,000 in population. The bill also provides a waiver around late financial reporting, to allow cities to receive their 2011 LGA as long as they submit the reports by end of May, 2012. The bill modifies the state's targeted property tax relief program to provide a temporary increase for homeowners with large tax increases. The bill also repeals obsolete language relating to statutes around economic development.</p>
Bonding	<p>Passed; No City of Minneapolis priorities were funded. However, the bill includes several key items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$47.5 million for a grant program administered by DEED for business development through capital projects; • \$44 million to State Capitol restoration; • \$30 million to local bridge replacement and rehabilitation; • \$64 million to the University of Minnesota; • \$132 to the MNSCU system; • \$30 million to flood hazard mitigation; • \$4.0 million to the Met Council for wastewater Inflow & Infiltration Abatement grants; • \$3.0 million to DEED Redevelopment Account; • \$5.5 million to Minnesota Housing for public housing rehabilitation; • \$30 million to Minnesota Housing for foreclosure remediation, supportive housing and preservation in Housing Infrastructure Bonds; • \$4.0 million to the Met Council for wastewater Inflow & Infiltration abatement grants; • \$1.75 million to the Phillips Community Center pool renovation, a Minneapolis Park Board project; • \$13.389 million to Minneapolis Community and Technical College – Workforce Program Renovation; • \$2.5 million to the Interchange LRT Station, a Hennepin County project; and • \$5.0 million to the Washburn Center for Children, a Hennepin County project

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Convention center Lodging Tax Cap	Action related to Vikings Stadium.
Funding Public safety	No change since 2011
Prostitution and Human Trafficking	No change since 2011
Domestic Abuse	Introduced; Bill clarified that a domestic abuse no contact order (DANCO) is a criminal order (to distinguish it from similar civil orders). It eliminated language which requires a DANCO to be issued in a proceeding separate from a pretrial release or sentencing proceeding.
Traffic and Driving Offenses	Passed Committee; Bill establishing a gross misdemeanor penalty for anyone who causes the death of another while driving carelessly passed the Senate and was sitting on the floor of the House awaiting a vote when session ended. The City preferred the language to include the causing of “great bodily harm” in addition to death.
Predatory Offender Registration	Passed; Mandatory community notification required when a person is released from the civil commitment program.
Pension Sustainability	<p>Passed; Omnibus Pension bill includes provisions that impact the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) General Plan and Police and Fire (P&F) plans, volunteer relief associations, and specific pension provisions for the cities of Fairmont and Virginia. One of the most controversial features of the bill is the recommendation from the Pension Commission that changes the current law 8.5% rate of return assumption for investment of pension assets and replaces it with a new, initially lower “select and ultimate” rate of return assumption. The proposal originated during Pension Commission discussions, in part, because several members of the Pension Commission were concerned that with current market trends, the 8.5% assumption appeared to be overly optimistic.</p> <p>Under the act, the pre-retirement “select” rate of return assumption is reduced to 8% annually for the period of July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2017, while the pre-retirement ultimate rate of return assumption returns to 8.5% annually for the period beginning on July 1, 2017. Using a lower assumed rate of return assumption on invested pension assets will reduce the projected appreciation in the invested pension funds and could ultimately necessitate an increase in employer and employee contributions in order to cover the long-term obligations of the plans.</p>
Transportation : Corridors	Passed; Southwest Corridor not directly funded, but opportunity for planning money exists in the new \$47.5 million grant program administered by DEED for business

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	development through capital projects.
Transportation Transit:	Introduced; Bills introduced to require the Met Council raise its transit fares 25 cents. Bill did not pass.
Transportation: Alternative Funding Sources.	
Transportation; Congestion Mitigation	
Foreclosure: vacant and boarded	Passed; \$30.0 million in the bonding bill for foreclosure remediation, supportive housing and preservation. These are Housing Infrastructure Bonds and will require an annual appropriation from the legislature. They are not backed by the full faith and credit of the State.
Building Codes	Vetoed; Bill vetoed that would have prevented Minnesota from adopting a revised building code that would require new single-family homes to contain fire sprinklers
Housing Funding	Passed; \$30.0 million in the bonding bill for foreclosure remediation, supportive housing and preservation. Additional \$5.5 million in bonding bill for public housing rehabilitation. These are Housing Infrastructure Bonds and will require an annual appropriation from the legislature. They are not backed by the full faith and credit of the State.
CRA	Passed; Legislation revoking Minneapolis' exemption from the Peace Officers Discipline Procedures Act. It also requires that Civilian Review Authority (CRA) recommendations can only be advisory, and prohibits CRAs from making findings of fact and determinations on complaints against officers and from imposing discipline on officers.
IRV Related Legislation	No Action
Animal Fighting	No Action
Liquor License: general law	Omnibus Liquor bill grants Broadway Liquor a special liquor license and allows alcohol service at TCF Stadium so long as there is sale to the general public in a manner that is convenient and liquor sales continue through half-time. The bill also allows the University of Minnesota to serve alcohol at TCF bank stadium, including at any Vikings games played there, as long as the university serves "at a location in the stadium convenient to the general public attending...."
Aviation policy	No action
Youth Violence Prevention	No action

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Public Health: State Health Improvement Program (SHIP)	No reduction
Product Responsibility	No action
Redevelopment Fund	Bonding bill, Chapter 293 appropriated \$3.0 million. Governor requested \$5.0 million.
Green Manufacturing	No action
Brownfield Clean-up	No action
Angel Investment credit	Passed Committee; Langued included in both of the vetoed Omnibus Tax bills increasing the annual limit on tax credits from \$12 million to \$16.5 million in tax year 2012. First Tax bill included \$17 million in tax years 2013 and 2014. Made other technical changes to the program.
Historic Tax credit	Passed Committee; Legislation was introduced and included in the first vetoed Omnibus Tax bill that made several changes to the historic structure credit including extending the sunset of the program from 2015 to 2021.