



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Intergovernmental Relations

Date: April 25, 2014

To: Chair Elizabeth Glidden and Vice Chair Alondra Cano
Referral to: Intergovernmental Relations

Subject: Federal, State and Local Update

Recommendation: Receive and File

Department Information

Prepared by: IGR Staff

Approved by Gene Ranieri, IGR Director: _____

Presenters in Committee: IGR Staff

Supporting Information

State Legislature:

1. **Bonding.** As of April 23 the Senate bonding bill has not been released. It is expected that the Senate Capital will meet early next week to act on its bill. The committee was scheduled to meet on Friday, April 25 but the meeting was cancelled.

The House bill has not been scheduled for a hearing. The lack of formal action on the bonding bills can be contributed to the ongoing discussions among legislative leadership and the Governor to reach an agreement related to budget, bonding and taxes. The discussions are ongoing and indications are that an agreement could be announced by mid-week.
2. **Supplemental Budget Conference Committee.** The committee has met three times and is scheduled to meet Friday afternoon. Absent a spending target, the committee has reviewed the bill and has adopted several "similar and same" and non-controversial sections that are only in one bill.
3. **Taxes Conference Committee.** The committee had its initial meeting on Thursday, April 24. The committee discussed the ongoing leadership meetings and indicated that they will probably be the last bill completed. The side-by-side comparison was handed out but in a break with tradition it was not reviewed by staff. The committee will meet again on Monday, April 28.
4. **SCORE Funding.** The SCORE bill is in the House version of the supplemental budget bill. The Senate SCORE bill is in committee and the Senate supplemental budget bill includes \$750,000 from the environment fund for SCORE. The House has a \$7.0 million general fund appropriation which is added to the base. The Senate

appropriation is a one-time appropriation. Rep. Hornstein, the House author, discussed the bill to the budget conferees on Thursday but no action was taken.

The SCORE bill as introduced extended the recycling requirements to commercial buildings but a House floor amendment eliminated the provision. However, on Thursday, April 24 an amendment requiring commercial recycling in the metropolitan area was attached to a bill related to recycling for state agencies by a floor amendment.

5. Medical Marijuana. The Senate Health and Human Services Committee held a hearing on Sen. Dibble's bill. Additional information will be provided at the committee meeting. The House bill has not been scheduled for a hearing.
6. Automated License Plate Readers. The House conferees (Reps. Lesch, Holberg and Hilstrom) have been appointed. The Senate members should be appointed by Monday, April 28. The committee should begin meeting early next week. In addition to the time the data generated by the readers can be held, the issue of how and who can access the data will be an issue for debate at the conference. The Senate bill has language addressing the "access" issue but it may need to be expanded to provide additional standards.
7. Pollinators. The "labeling" bill authored by Rep. Hansen and Sen. Dzierdzic will be heard in the House on Tuesday, April 29.
8. Women's Economic Security Act. The bill has passed both chambers and a conference committee has been appointed. The Senate conferees are Sens. Pappas, Sieben and Rosen. The House conferees are Reps. Melin, Moran and Kresha.

The above listed items as well as others will be updated at the IGR committee meeting.

Federal.

1. Federal Communications Commission. (FCC) The Federal Communications Commission has announced that it will propose rules that will permit internet providers to offer enhanced capacity for a fee to users. In effect the rules would revise the policy of net neutrality.

At a future IGR committee meeting city staff will provide an assessment, if any, of the proposed ruling on city operations. The city has a policy position in its federal agenda that supports net neutrality.

2. Congressional Appropriations Process. The House has begun its appropriations process. It is anticipated that all of the appropriation bills could be completed by the Memorial Day recess. The Senate has also begun work. However, it remains to be seen if the appropriation bills will be sent to the President prior to the start of the federal fiscal year (October 1). If the deadline is not met there will be a limited duration continuing resolution (CR).
3. Federal Highway Trust Fund. The U.S. Department of Transportation is projecting that the Trust Fund could be short of funds to meet its obligations in July 2014. A stop-gap funding measure, a transfer from the general fund, is expected but a long term solution is not probable in the short term.