

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

**Date:** September 29, 2009

**To:** Chair Betsy Hodges and IGR Committee Members

**Subject:** 2010 Legislative Agenda

**Recommendation:** Review the 2009 Legislative Agenda; review new proposal and recommend a 2010 legislative agenda.

Prepared by: IGR Staff

Approved by Gene Ranieri: \_\_\_\_\_

Presenters in Committee: IGR Staff

**Background Information:**

In August the IGR Committee Chair requested city elected officials and staff to submit legislative proposals to the IGR office by September 18. The proposals have been summarized in the following tables. The proposals will be summarized at the September 29, 2009, IGR Committee meeting. Also at the meeting staff will review the 2009 Legislative Agenda noting actions during the session and possible 2010 activity. At subsequent IGR committee meetings each section of the agenda will be discussed and where appropriate departmental presentations on proposals or current policies will be scheduled. It is envisioned that a 2010 legislative agenda can be reported to the city council by the end of the year. A copy of the 2009 Legislative Agenda is attached.

Proposal	Submitted By	Description
Publishing Requirements	City Clerk	Proposal would permit cities to eliminate outdated and unnecessary publications and permit cities to use other forms of communications such as the web to publish notices and official proceedings. The proposal is a support item in the 2009 legislative agenda. The city clerk estimates that it could save approximately \$50,000 annually.
Liquor Licensing Amendment	Regulatory Services	It is proposed that Minnesota Statutes 340A.415 be amended so that reasonable conditions may be imposed uniquely to a given liquor licensee whether the license has already issued or not and without passing an ordinance laying out the terms and conditions for that particular licensee.

Proposal	Submitted By	Description
Public Health Priority Issues	Health and Family Support	The Department proposes two new priority issues. One – Expand Health Care Access and Protect Funding for the Integrity of Safety Net Programs is currently a support item. The other – Prenatal Substance Abuse - would be a new policy.
Pension Legislation: MERF	Finance	The Legislative Commission on Pensions is researching funding sources for pension funds as part of a pension consolidation proposal. The current MERF bill proposes a full merger with PERA. The Finance Department and the MERF retirees' association are examining legislative alternatives modeled after a consolidation process used to assist local pension funds.
TAD Ramps Usage	CM Ostrow	City has passed resolutions to support a golf entertainment facility on one of the TAD roofs. Legislative hearings were held on the issue in the Senate Tax Committee in 2005 and a task force to draft air rights policies was authorized.
City/County Crime Lab	CM Ostrow	Placeholder until the report of a county sponsored working group is completed.
Property Tax Petition Process Change	City Assessor	Proposal would limit the filing for a change in market value petition to one parcel per petition.
Lodging Tax Cap Repeal	Convention Center	Minnesota statutes impose a total maximum tax rate related to local and state sales and lodging taxes. Due to increases in state sales and metro taxes local lodging taxes have been reduced.
Public Housing Preservation Bonds	Minneapolis Public Housing	City's legislative program supports the programs of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA). The MHFA has supported public housing preservation in prior years and is requesting a \$10.0 million bond appropriation for 2010. The 2009 bonding bill included \$2.0 million for the program.

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State/Local Partnership to fund a Demonstration Memory Care Public Housing Development	Minneapolis Public Housing	Proposal would have the Minnesota Department of Human Services lead a multi- agency effort to develop a public housing development that has a memory care focus.
Repeal the housing penalty for families living in public housing and receiving MFIP and SSI payments	Minneapolis Public Housing	The policy is part of the city's legislative agenda as a support item in the Housing and Homelessness Prevention Section.
Restore MSA and GAMC	Minneapolis Public Housing	Programs were subject to unallotment for state fiscal years 2009 and 2010. The city has a policy that supports the funding of the safety net programs. The policy is a support item in the City Livability section.
Allow for conveyance of tax forfeited property for affordable and/or public housing	Minneapolis Public Housing	City supports (Housing and Homelessness) a policy that recommends "continued review of the property tax code to encourage affordable housing production and preservation." There is not a specific policy on tax forfeiture.
Transportation Funding	Public Works	The Department is recommending a modification of a priority issue regarding the funding of transportation improvements. The policy statement would be amended to delete references to special assessments and insert language that refers to "other fee for service models." A repeal of a 1959 special law is also suggested if a fee for service model is pursued.
Waste and Waste Management	Public Works	A container deposit/refund bill was introduced in 2009 (HF 1128 /SF 1549). Rep Hortman and Sen. Sieben are the chief authors. The department recommends that the bill be monitored.

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Economic Development, Jobs and Housing	CPED	Department is concerned about the loss of emerging industries to other states and is examining such strategies as tax credits investment credits: activities of the economic development task force established by the House will be monitored. Department in cooperation with other cities and nonprofits and participating in development of housing foreclosure prevention and recovery options.
Criminal Justice: Domestic Abuse	City Attorney	City Attorney continues to support items in the 2009 agenda that have not been enacted. City Attorney also proposing new law that would include several prior violations of the criminal code as qualified domestic violence-related offenses.
Traffic and Driving Offenses	City Attorney	Continue support for the 2009 agenda and modifications to current law.
General Public Safety	City Attorney	Continued support for general changes to the criminal code as contained in 2009 legislative agenda. Specific items mentioned for 2010 include, but are not limited to, auto theft and tampering and rifles and shotguns in public places.
Abandoned Properties	City Attorney	Amend the definition of abandoned property in MS 117.025 sub 5 (Eminent Domain) to allow for a limited time frame the condemnation in targeted neighborhoods of properties that are defined to be abandoned.
Eliminate Local Regulation Preemption for Purposes Of Complying with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Stormwater	City Attorney	Amend state law (18B.02 and 18C.110) to allow local governments to provide stricter requirements when needed to comply with pollutant limits contained in the local governments' NPDES permit.

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Description</b>
System Permit Requirements		
Notice to City of Foreclosure	City Attorney	Amend the mortgage foreclosure statute to require the foreclosing entity to provide cities with contact information of a representative who has authority to negotiate a resolution of the foreclosure and respond to property maintenance concerns.