

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

Date: 10/15/2008

To: Council Member Betsy Hodges and IGR Committee Members

Referral to: IGR Committee

**Subject: Continuation of 2009 Legislative Process; Presentations of new proposals by CPED, Public Works Department and Health and Family Support.**

**Recommendation: Discussion; Action to be taken at a subsequent meeting.**

Prepared by: IGR staff

Approved by: Gene Ranieri, IGR Director \_\_\_\_\_

Presenters in Committee: Staff from CPED, Public Works and Health and Family Support

### Supporting Information:

The new legislative proposals of the CPED, Public Works and Health and Family Support are summarized below. Representatives of the departments will make presentations at the IGR Committee meeting of October 21 regarding the proposals. Staff from these departments will be available to respond to questions and provide additional information.

Department	Proposal Summary
<b>Community Planning and Economic Development</b>	<b>State Historic Tax Credit.</b> City currently supports a state credit. Minnesota Historical Society usually takes the lead on this issue; credit has been in a tax bill but has not been incorporated into a tax conference committee report.
	<b>Minnesota Housing Foreclosure Recovery Act Funding.</b> The proposed legislation is being drafted by a coalition of public and nonprofit agencies. The legislation could include policy suggestions and an appropriation amount.
	<b>State Brownfield Funding.</b> City as part of the 2008 agenda supports increased funding for state brownfields.
	<b>Municipal Planning Act: Statute of Limitations.</b> Amend MS 462.361 (Municipal Planning Act) by adding a statute of limitation period into the judicial review provision of the act. The amendment would permit a person seeking review of a decision 60 days to file an appeal in the district court.
	<b>Eminent Domain.</b> Explore if the eminent domain law could be amended to assist in the mortgage foreclosure crisis.

	<p><b>Transit Improvement Area.</b> Enabling legislation with appropriation language was enacted in 2008. The law permits cities to propose the designation of an area that includes a transit station or corridor as a transit improvement area. The area must be approved by the Commissioner of Employment and Economic Development. If approved the city can develop and approve a plan for the area and request state funds. At this time, however, no funding has been appropriated.</p>
	<p><b>Income Tax Credits for Bioscience Businesses.</b> In an effort to stimulate the development bioscience businesses Wisconsin has provided a corporate income tax credit. The credit has helped stimulate the growth of the industry in Wisconsin.</p> <p>In Minnesota, legislation similar to Wisconsin's was proposed in 2008. The House version was included in the body's omnibus tax bill but it was not included in the final bill.</p>
<b>Public Works</b>	<p><b>Mitigation for Central Corridor.</b> Request funding (capital bonding) for projects related to the central corridor light rail project.</p>
	<p><b>Clean City Fee.</b> No specific proposal at this time. Staff is researching possible options.</p>
	<p><b>Right of Way Advertising.</b> Amend the current law to add kiosks to the list of items that can include advertising in the right of way.</p>
	<p><b>Moving Violation for Blocking Intersections.</b> Amend MS 169.15 to allow local jurisdictions to issue a moving violation for blocking intersections. Currently the city has an ordinance that prohibits blocking an intersection and assesses a \$30 fine for the offense.</p>
<b>Health Department</b>	<p><b>Safe Routes to School.</b> Policies that increase the number of children who can bike and walk to school safely. Increasing fines for traffic offenses in a school zone and dedicating these funds to support Safe Routes to Schools programs; lowering and enforcing speed limits along defined Safe Routes to School zones; and advocating for more public safety funding to support students biking and walking to school.</p> <p><b>Youth Violence Prevention.</b> Adoption of a state policy direction that recognizes that youth violence is a public health issue. As a public health issue legislation that focuses on mentoring, employment and training, and early intervention should be the core of the policy direction. Therefore the state should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Authorize an annual appropriation to fund intervention and prevention programs that address youth violence prevention.</li> <li>- Permit coordinated case file management so that cross jurisdictional entities of the juvenile justice system can coordinate services.</li> <li>- Support sensible gun laws that restrict access to guns.</li> <li>- Allowing mentoring groups to access background check information using state and federal databases.</li> <li>- Establish a \$10.0 million competitive grant program for</li> </ul>

	<p>existing state or local partnerships to increase the number of mentors statewide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Designate a portion of the Work Force Investment Act appropriation to employ at-risk youth and youth reentering the work force from the criminal justice system.</li></ul>
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