



# 2025 Legislative Agenda and Policy Positions

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# Minneapolis Vision

Minneapolis is an intentionally compassionate city where each of us can reach our full potential while caring for one another, eliminating racial disparities, improving our environment and promoting social well-being. We lead in innovative and creative ways, focused not only on our present needs, but also the success of future generations.

## Minneapolis Values

**Equity:** City government works side-by-side with community members to engage all voices, creatively problem solve, and build trust, particularly with those who have been most impacted by inequities. This helps to ensure that opportunities are accessible to everyone.

**Safety:** People have a strong sense of security and can live peacefully in safe neighborhoods, knowing that City government is accountable for responsive and proactive public safety services.

**Excellence:** To achieve the best outcomes and the highest quality service, we are forward-thinking and exhibit competence, professionalism, and integrity, and strive for personal growth.

**Welcoming:** All individuals are welcome, regardless of race, ethnicity or place of origin, gender identity or religious affiliation. This enhances Minneapolis' cultural fabric, economic growth, global competitiveness and overall prosperity for current and future generations.

**Stewardship:** We serve as trusted stewards of financial, environmental, social, and physical resources, recognizing that resources are for the common good today and tomorrow. We seek solutions that reflect our long-term commitment to end suffering in our city.

**Transparency:** People can trust City government and hold them accountable for making and communicating decisions grounded in accurate information and integrity. We build credibility by accepting feedback, owning our actions, and providing reliable follow-through.

## Minneapolis Goals

**Public Safety:** The City prioritizes collaborative and community-inclusive strategies to ensure safety for all members of our community.

**Environmental Justice:** The City prioritizes sustainable practices and renewable resources to equitably address climate change while restoring and protecting our soil, water and air.

**Housing:** The City prioritizes equitable access to safe, stable, accessible, and affordable housing to eliminate racial disparities in housing.

**Built Environment & Transportation:** The City prioritizes high quality neighborhoods, streets, infrastructure and equitable access to multimodal transportation in all parts of the City through thoughtful planning and design.

**Economic Development:** The City prioritizes economic inclusion so that all workers and families are supported and People of Color, Indigenous and Immigrant (POCII)- owned businesses in all sectors can thrive.

**Public Health:** The City prioritizes positive youth development so that all children can grow healthy and safe.

**Public Services:** The City prioritizes reliable and equitable access to high-quality public services.

**Arts and Culture:** The City prioritizes arts and culture as equitable access to high-quality public services. an important part of inclusive economic development and placemaking in our communities.

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# 2025 Legislative Agenda

The 2025 Legislative Agenda includes the highest priority items for the City of Minneapolis. The City will actively advocate for these positions with the Minneapolis Legislative Delegation and the Legislature.

The City of Minneapolis supports state policies that ensure the City can continue its efforts to advance inclusivity, support economic opportunity for all residents, and protect its most vulnerable residents.

## Capital Investment Priorities

The City **seeks** General Obligation Bond dollars to support the following publicly owned infrastructure projects:

1. Nicollet Avenue Bridge over Minnehaha Creek: \$2 million
2. Structural Renewal of 36 inch Water Main: \$12.36 million
3. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan Implementation: \$5 million
4. Flood mitigation projects
  - a. 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Flood Mitigation and Street Reconstruction: \$25 million
  - b. 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Flood Mitigation: \$25 million
  - c. Aldrich Avenue South Sanitary Rehabilitation: \$6.6 million

The City supports an additional \$5.7 million toward the community purchase of the Roof Depot site for use as a community-envisioned Urban Farm as agreed upon in the 2023 Legislative Session to reach the total \$11.4 million purchase price.

The City supports capital investments in: Housing Infrastructure Bonds, General Obligation Bonds for public housing authorities, building out the region's Bus Rapid Transit system, active transportation, direct state investments for non-profit capital investment projects.

## Economic Recovery and Revenue Diversification

The City **seeks** policies and funding to support inclusive economic growth, ongoing recovery, and property tax relief for homeowners, including:

- State funding, tax credits or policy tools that will assist with the conversion of vacant downtown commercial space to residential or new types of uses;
- Expanding existing funding sources that reduce the property tax burden for city residents such as Local Government Aid and explore new sources of revenues for the city to decrease the reliance on property taxes.
- Support the property tax refund as a mechanism for providing relief to homeowners paying property taxes, including a new type of refund for special assessments for homeowners who qualify based on income.
- State funding for programs that support small businesses, entrepreneurs, and local artists.
- Repeal the signature requirement for changing zoning from residential to commercial in cities of the First Class
- Granting cities the authority to allow for open liquor containers in certain areas of the city;

## Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention

The City **seeks** increased state resources and collaboration to support safe and stable housing for all individuals and families, including:

- Sustainable operational funding to make safe, dignified, low-barrier, and housing-focused emergency shelters available to residents experiencing homelessness;
- Enhanced collaboration, funding and strategic coordinated leadership from the state to effectively serve residents experiencing unsheltered homelessness in both Minneapolis and statewide;
- Effective, culturally appropriate prevention and treatment interventions for opioid use with funding for programs that have a long-term focus, behavioral health resources and support for housing services.
- Strengthen protections for renters to ensure access to safe, stable, and dignified housing;
- Disclosing investor ownership information for rental properties as public data.

### Climate Action

The City **seeks** state support to help the City achieve its goals under the Climate Action Plan. The City is seeking state support for:

- The development of, and funding for, zero-waste initiatives;
- Funding for local governments to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Supporting policies, programs, and funding that help Hennepin County and Minneapolis prepare for the closure of the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center, including source reduction, waste diversion, and more sustainable waste processing infrastructure.

### Community Safety and Public Safety Reform

The City **seeks** policy changes to improve community safety and operations of the police department in support of ongoing reform efforts, including:

- Legislation to require that peace officers are in a separate bargaining unit than their sergeants and lieutenants;
- Strategies to support peace office recruitment and retention;
- Strategies and funding for additional local community safety initiatives;
- Strategies and funding to address juvenile crime and connecting juvenile offenders with needed services.
- Strategies and funding that hold those contributing to the fentanyl crisis accountable;

### Transportation Infrastructure

The City **seeks** robust transportation funding and policy initiatives including:

- Local cost share participation policy changes;
- Consistent State funding to address ADA infrastructure improvements;
- State funding to create complete streets, increase traffic calming initiatives and address other city street maintenance and improvement needs.

### Improving Local Governance

The City **seeks** policy changes to support the operations of local government and effective local government finance, including:

- Additional relief for the City's significant ongoing obligations to US Bank Stadium;
- Repealing or amending the statute that established the Municipal Building Commission;
- Updating the Minneapolis downtown taxing boundary;
- Making the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board more effective by allowing elected officials that serve on the board to designate an individual to attend, discuss actions and vote on NRP Policy Board matters;

# 2025 Legislative Policy Positions

## Advancing Racial Equity

Advancing racial equity is paramount to the wellbeing and belonging of our entire community and long-term vitality of the City of Minneapolis, and the State of Minnesota. The City of Minneapolis' goal is to approach all of our policies and programs using the lens of racial equity, and champion intentional state legislative strategies that advance racial equity and prevent and eliminate racial disparities in public policy and public investments.

The City supports efforts to require Racial Equity Impact Assessments for state policies and supports efforts to study the impacts of slavery and systemic racism on Black Minnesotans and develop recommendations for reparations and policy changes that advance racial equity.

## Funding and Running a City That Works

### Local Government Finance

A strong state and local fiscal relationship is critical to providing public services for the residents and visitors who live, work, and play in the City of Minneapolis.

The City of Minneapolis supports policies that address local government finance, including:

- Diversifying revenue sources;
- Maintaining existing law regarding city authority to impose franchise fees;
- Seeking authority for cities to charge fees that are reasonably related to the entire cost to the city of providing the service, permit or license;
- Exploring sales tax or fee on digital products to support dedicated funding for municipal digital media;
- Reducing complexity in the property tax system and providing increased flexibility for local governments to collect payments for services on tax-exempt property;
- Allowing local boards of appeal and equalization to receive and file appeal applications in the same way as county boards of appeal and equalization;
- Providing greater ability for assessors to use property information obtained in court when making value assessments;
- Restricting the use of court protective orders related to the use of information obtained in tax court discovery that is necessary for accurate property value assessment;
- Ensuring balance in the state-local fiscal relationship by maintaining the current Local Government Aid (LGA) formula as modified in 2023 and increasing funding for the LGA program;
- Fairly redistributing state revenues generated by local government to reduce over-reliance on property taxes;
- Eliminating or reducing unfunded mandates imposed on local governments;
- Simplifying the process for local governments to receive the sales tax exemption for purchases of construction materials;
- Preserving state support for state and regional assets located in the City of Minneapolis;
- Ensuring the long-term viability of all state-wide public pension funds without

- overburdening local governments;
- Ongoing funding to address first responder PERA duty disability costs;
- Consistent funding to address duty disability costs and benefit coordination;
- Allowing local decision-making authority on municipal employment, compensation and benefit decisions;
- Restoring the powers and duties of the City Assessor that were removed because of legislation enacted in the 2021 Department of Revenue Technical Bill;
- Repealing the statute that established the Municipal Building Commission.
- Authorizing cities to create land-value taxation districts;
- Ensuring tenants living in exempt nonprofit housing are not personally responsible for property taxes and remain eligible for property tax refunds;
- Repealing the amount above which a district court must approve a City negotiated settlement.

## Capital Investment

The City of Minneapolis supports the following regional and statewide capital investment needs:

- Funding for the Bus, Bus Guideway and Express Bus Development Program to advance regional transitway projects;
- Investments in statewide bridge replacement and rehabilitation;
- Transit projects that provide all-day service to increase access to jobs, both for suburban residents to reach jobs in Minneapolis, and for Minneapolis residents to reach jobs in suburban communities;
- Continued metro-wide efforts to secure bonding funds for local inflow and infiltration and other storm water projects;
- Racial equity impact assessments for large capital investments funded in whole or in part by the state;
- Investments in state buildings and parks that are inclusive and accessible for all Minnesotans.

## Transportation

### TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT SYSTEM FUNDING:

The City of Minneapolis supports stable and secure state funding to meet both the capital and operational needs of the expanding local and regional transit and transportation systems, including:

- New and sustainable state and regional funding for multi-modal transit including rail, roads, and bridges;
- Funding to meet both the capital and operational needs of the expanding regional transit and transportation systems;
- A comprehensive transportation bill that provides local governments throughout Minnesota with the resources necessary to preserve investments and meet the transportation and transit needs of residents, visitors, and business;
- Funding of all transit corridors that help build a complete transit system to serve existing riders;
- Creating alternative sources of revenue for transportation improvements, including local authority to create and make use of a street utility, parking revenues, and local



- authority to implement value capture;
- Ensuring that Municipal State Aid standards allow cities to design and build streets that safely meet the needs of all who use them;
- Increasing funding for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and programming;
- Support establishing a pavement art pilot program; appropriating money;
- Support establishing requirements governing transportation cumulative impacts analysis;
- Support establishing a Community Preferred Alternative Act;
- Support for both policies and funding to aid cities and counties seeking highway-to-boulevard conversions.

## TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT SYSTEM POLICIES:

The City of Minneapolis supports policies that balance the needs of existing riders with those of new riders, and prioritize transit dependent riders, including:

- Enhancing the role for cities in the process of determining transportation and transit investments;
- Prioritizing transit projects that provide all-day service, especially those that serve existing riders;
- Prioritizing transit projects that promote economic development and job growth along city streets like modern streetcars and/or increased transit speed and reliability along city streets, such as enhanced bus or arterial bus rapid transit;
- Local flexibility and ease of implementation when seeking to design and implement pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and safety efforts unique to urban environments;
- Promoting car sharing and electric vehicles and charging station use, development and manufacturing in Minnesota;
- Maintaining existing state truck weight and size limits and review safety measures;
- Improving roadway safety, reducing crashes, and supporting additional design features on local roadways;
- Collaborative decision making between the state and local units of government in discussions related to autonomous or connected vehicles;
- Incorporating local needs when considering any legislation related to automated and connected vehicles; for example, any state legislation considered should ensure that local traffic laws are followed, and that performance and safety information is freely shared;
- Amending MN Statute 169.79 subd.1 to require vehicle registrant, not driver, to properly display vehicle registration information and if proper registration is not displayed, the ability to ticket the vehicle;
- Establishing and supporting a regional effort to identify solutions to the lack of designated commercial truck parking;
- Removing restrictions that prevent commercial activity in bond financed parking and transit facilities;
- Capital and operating funds to support vibrant shared mobility systems in Minnesota communities;
- Exploring fare programs and potential to expand and improve programs like Transit Assistance Program (TAP);
- Enacting a statewide vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction goal;
- Repairing the historic and ongoing harms of highway projects;
- Amending the state processes for transportation project planning, development and environmental review to better incorporate the intersectional impacts of transportation projects, including impacts on anti-displacement efforts, environmental justice, racial equity, climate, accessibility, economic opportunity and community connectivity.

## Municipal and Regional Governance

The City of Minneapolis supports policies that enhance enterprise operations, support local decision making, and promote gender and racial equity in employment and contracting, including:

### GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

- Enhancing local governance and local government decision making authority;
- Clarifying that future comprehensive plans are not subject to claims under the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act;
- Opposing legislation that would preempt city zoning and land use authority for residential development;
- Eliminating outdated or unnecessary publications and permitting cities to elect alternative means such as the internet to publish notices and official proceedings;
- Establishing authority in State Building Code to enhance and enforce local green building regulations;
- Maintaining city authority to license entities and set fees that enable cities to recover full regulatory and enforcement expenses;
- Providing flexibility in the Municipal Contracting law to allow a city to select a software vendor whose product best matches the city's needs;
- Expanding authority for cities to establish contracts for local construction projects;
- Ensuring local government ability to provide highest level of service to animals in its care and opposing efforts to place additional unnecessary and costly requirements regarding animal control;
- Protecting rights of all people to engage in protected first amendment speech, assembly, and protest without the burden of risk of civil liability for public safety response costs;
- Supporting a strong, effective Metropolitan Council for regional cooperation and planning around transportation, land use, affordable housing, parks and open space, water resources and environmental protection and for the operation of regional services including transit and wastewater management;
- Maintaining current law providing local government authority related to Special Service Districts;
- Expanding the Local Government Pay Equity Act methodology to include a race-based equity test;
- Allowing for automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) technology to be used for on street parking enforcement;
- Creating clear guidance for lawful conduct at public meetings of government bodies subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law (Chapter 13D) while safeguarding the protected First Amendment rights of citizens to peaceful assembly and to express dissent or to protest government policies and actions;
- Allowing the elected officials from the State Senate, State House of Representatives, Hennepin County, Minneapolis City Council, Minneapolis Park Board, Minneapolis School Board to designate an individual to attend, discuss actions and vote on NRP Policy Board matters;
- Support for amending state statutes MN Statutes 3.226 and 16C.053 in order to remove barriers for vendors interested in contracting with the state who are participating in the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement;
- Repealing the inclusion of lost revenue from any determination of “just compensation” from a municipality’s purchase of a public utility and its property operating in a municipality under a license, permit, right, or franchise.

## BUSINESS CERTIFICATION:

- Increasing consistency and simplicity in certification standards and processes, such as the development of a single certification, or a unified certification portal, and/or simplified certification for micro businesses;
- Resources to provide technical assistance for minority-owned businesses and those who work with minority-owned businesses to become certified minority vendors;.
- Clear identification of certified businesses in cooperative agreements, such as through the development of a portal to find a diverse supplier;
- Increasing the number of certified minority-owned businesses.

## PROCUREMENT:

- Clear state goal setting that establishes meaningful and significant purchasing of environmentally friendly products, and meaningful and significant purchasing from businesses owned by women and people of color;
- State purchasing from businesses owned by women and people of color, and the monitoring and regular reporting of funds spent;
- Permitting cities to use the construction manager at risk procurement model for capital projects.

## ELECTIONS:

- Flexibility and authority for cities to conduct alternative election-related initiatives, including but not limited to technology advancements that increase efficiency of conducting elections, expanded vote-by-mail, early voting, adding voting sites with less notice, and vote centers;
- Modifying election laws to encourage greater participation in elections by non-English speaking voters such as allowing for assistive voting devices to be programmed into other languages and measures which allow eligible voters to register without hardship, such as allowing for assistive voting devices to be programmed into other languages;
- Amending state statutes related to ballot question petitions to provide a clear definition of registered voter, such as clarifying that a registered voter is registered at the given address at the time of petition submission. Also, clarifying the signature gathering period for petition submissions;
- Creating a state certification process for voting systems used in tabulating Ranked Choice Voting elections so that automated tabulations systems can be used for vote counting;
- Amending state statute to allow for the use of more than one ballot when Ranked Choice Voting is conducted in conjunction with a state general election;
- Requiring vendors, including sub-contractors, to report cyber security incidents to customers and the Minnesota Secretary of State;
- Expanding the list of eligible vouchers and documents allowed for election day registration to aid eligible voters experiencing homelessness and those without a postal address;
- State funding for and legislation that address cybersecurity threats to elections;

## DATA PRACTICES:

- Updating the Minnesota Data Practices Act to modernize the public's privacy rights

- and better protect personally identifiable information;
- Amending the Minnesota Data Practices Act to classify employee geo-location data as private;
- Amending the Minnesota Data Practices Act to classify the rehomed location of animals, identity of the new owner and persons assisting investigators, as private;
- Amending the Minnesota Data Practices Act Sec. 13.43, subd. 2 to make the status of complaints against a peace officer accessible to the public and ensure police officer records are available to potential new employers;
- Defining non-law enforcement body camera data in a manner consistent with law enforcement body camera data;
- Amending the MN Data Practices Act Sect. 13.43 Subd. 2 to extend the definition of status of complaint against a peace officer to include whether or not the complaint was sustained;
- Amending Minnesota Statutes, Section 13.43 to classify as public data all data related to a complaint when a complaint is sustained against a peace officer, regardless of whether or not any corrective or disciplinary action is taken.
- Modifying the Minnesota Data Practices Act so that prosecuting agencies have easier access to law enforcement data, both public and private, in order to fulfill Brady obligations;
- Classifying criminal intelligence data received from other states in the manner it was designated in that other state at the time of the request;
- Support state funding for local governments to address the costs incurred by local governments when fulfilling large or unclear data requests.

## CANNABIS AND LIQUOR REGULATION

- Allowing state and city government to regulate cannabis in a safe and permissive way;
- Changes to legal cannabis laws that are responsive to local government concerns and improve access to the new market by members of communities most negatively impacted by cannabis prohibition;
- Granting authority to cities to impose local taxes on cannabis, or consider changes to local government revenue sharing, so that the costs of compliance and enforcement to local governments are paid for by cannabis revenue;
- Encouraging the Office of Cannabis Management to work collaboratively with cities when creating or modifying cannabis rules;
- Expanding access to the medicinal use of cannabis for authorized individuals with a debilitating medical condition;
- Granting cities the authority to allow for open liquor containers in certain areas of the city;
- Increasing local control on temporary liquor license restrictions.

## Ensuring that the City is Safe and Livable

### Community Safety and Criminal Justice Reform

The City of Minneapolis supports policies that ensure a fair and equitable criminal justice system that is free of structural racism and bias and helps foster a safe and livable city. The City supports initiatives that strengthen community policing and trust among local government, law enforcement officers and the communities they protect and serve. The City supports:

## SYSTEMIC JUSTICE

- Eliminating the unnecessary collateral consequence of driver's license suspension for non-public safety related infractions;
- Making the Driver Diversion Program permanent, available throughout the state, and modifying the program to increase access to and completion of the program;
- Expanding funding for restorative justice and other diversion programs;
- Alternative methods to collect unpaid fines on a vehicle that has multiple unpaid parking violations;
- Requiring that if a court reduces the amount paid by a violator, any reduction should be made from the surcharge and not the fine;
- Ensuring that the Rules of Evidence do not apply in restitution and expungement hearings;

The City supports legislation and policies that will build trust and improve relationships between law enforcement and all communities and incorporate best practices and procedures, including:

- Directing and appropriating funds for POST Board certified professional peace officer education programs to offer classes required for peace officer certification that not only develop tactical skills but also improve social interaction skills, including recognizing and confronting implicit bias, language and cultural responsiveness, crisis intervention, de-escalation, and fair and impartial policing and problem solving;
- Assigning priority points to applicant local law enforcement agencies applying for state public safety grant programs that (a) have written plans to engage communities to improve police-community relations and (b) provide on a regularly scheduled basis, information about stops, citations, summonses, arrests, reported crime, and other law enforcement data aggregated by demographics including race;
- State funding for peace officer training, wellness and safety programs;
- Granting the Office of Police Conduct Review limited subpoena power to compel the production of documents, records and other physical evidence to improve the quality of investigations;
- Establishing an independent public entity to investigate and adjudicate incidents of peace officer use of force that results in death or grave bodily harm of an individual;
- Amending the Data Practices Act to clarify exactly when a chief law enforcement officer (CLEO) may immediately disclose that the CLEO has taken an employment action;
- Allowing the POST Board to have access to peace officer discipline data that informs licensure decisions and further supports the Board exercising authority to investigate and make licensure decisions;
- Allowing law enforcement agencies to access law enforcement discipline records during the hiring process;
- Legislation to require that peace officers are in a separate bargaining unit than their sergeants and lieutenants;
- Supporting legislation that establishes for immigration enforcement purposes, state and local officials are restricted from cooperating with federal immigration enforcement efforts.
- Include support for legislative changes that would permit municipalities to opt out of defense and indemnification of peace officers and to require peace officers to carry professional liability insurance.
- Legislation that guarantees the bodily autonomy of Intersex youth and pathways to accessing gender affirming care;

## RESOURCES AND FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SAFETY:

- Funding for the entire public safety system, including such critical functions as police, fire, prosecutors, public defense, communication systems, probation, the courts and victim services;
- Strategies and funding to support peace officer recruitment and retention;
- Sufficient funding for safety net services such as mental illness and chemical dependency treatment and prevention, supportive housing, and youth homelessness prevention including culturally specific approaches for groups most heavily impacted;
- Continued funding for chronic offender and prison re-entry programs;
- Continued and increased state funding for cities to participate in the Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) and maintaining dedicated ARMER funds without diversion to the General Fund; such financing should include the acquisition and modernization of console and tower site equipment and subscriber equipment, such as portable and mobile radios required for ARMER users when such modernization is mandated and driven by a state timeline to comply;
- State reimbursement of costs incurred related to compensation for military leave, and overtime costs for public safety employees who fill related temporary vacancies;
- Increasing state resources to fund prevention and intervention programs that address youth violence and associated risk and protective factors.
- Support for funding to increase wages for workers who provide direct services to youth navigating the criminal justice system;
- Support to remove unnecessary barriers and standardize licensing for providers and workers who provide services to both youth and adults who are clients of the Department of Human Services and Department of Corrections;
- Legislation that will allocate funding to support the Minneapolis Transgender & Gender nonconforming community in relationship to Minnesota's establishment as a trans refuge state.

## PUBLIC SAFETY POLICIES AND COORDINATION EFFORTS:

- Creating a statewide coordinated plan for dealing with released sex offenders that addresses the overall concentration of offenders located within the City of Minneapolis and especially mitigates the concentration of sex offenders within vulnerable neighborhoods;
- Protecting the human rights of immigrant populations and establishing a culture of mutual trust between law enforcement and these communities to foster greater community public safety;
- Supporting the core state government function of operating state correctional facilities, opposing efforts to privatize all or portions of those facilities, and opposing private prisons and detention centers;
- Supporting programming that removes financial and administrative barriers that prevent and make it difficult for permanent residents to acquire citizenship;
- Amending MN Statute 609.2242 to increase the penalty from a misdemeanor to a gross misdemeanor for knowingly, or having a reason to believe, a family or household member whom the defendant strangled was pregnant;
- Amending Minnesota statute 609.2247. Domestic Assault by strangulation: to define strangulation as intentionally impeding normal breathing or circulation of the blood by applying pressure on the throat or neck or by blocking the nose or mouth of another person or by impeding

someone's ability to breathe by laying on top of them or placing pressure on their chest or neck without using their hands;

- Amending Minnesota Statute 609.224 to make it a misdemeanor to intentionally throw or otherwise intentionally transfer bodily fluids or feces onto another person;
- Establishing additional tools for law enforcement to combat and reduce occurrences of street racing, such as new or stronger penalties, and improving coordination between state government, local law enforcement agencies, and communities;
- Exploring options for post-conviction relief for a person in immigration removal proceedings;
- Supporting legislation that would mandate an end to all subminimum wages, including forced labor in correctional institutions by reclassifying prisoners as workers with a right to employment;
- Supporting creation of a state Office of Violence Prevention, that would support and help coordinate the violence prevention efforts of local governments.

#### STRENGTHENING CRIMINAL CODE:

- Changing the criminal code to address chronic offenders of indecent exposure laws and allowing for enhancement to felony level offenses;
- Amending the burglary statutes to make it a crime for a person to enter a building without consent and commit invasion of privacy offenses;
- Establishing a fourth-degree assault penalty for assault against code enforcement officers and other City officials while they are performing their duties;
- Creating enhanced criminal penalties for assaults and threats of violence against public officials, public employees, or their families, when the assault or threat of violence is committed for the purpose of causing bodily harm or terror because the victim is a public official, public employee, or a member of their family.

#### TRAFFIC AND DRIVING SAFETY:

- Allowing for a gross misdemeanor and increasing penalties for careless driving offense if driving conduct results in a fatality or great bodily harm;
- Establishing an aggravating factor to the driving while impaired statute for having caused an accident resulting in property damage or physical injury to another person;
- Enabling cities to efficiently leverage public safety resources by allowing the use of technology such as photo enforcement systems;
- Making it a crime to drive under the influence of any drug that makes a person an unsafe driver;
- An enhanced penalty for driving during the revocation period resulting from an impaired driving conviction;

#### HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

- Efforts to prevent and reduce human trafficking including sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and exploitation;
- Funding for treatment, transitional housing programs, and other support services for survivors of sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and exploitation;
- Efforts to end exploitation by enhancing the system to respond effectively to their

needs, including sufficient resources and training for law enforcement and service providers;

- Prohibiting motor carriers of passengers from allowing or permitting nude adult entertainment or consumption of alcohol by a minor to occur onboard and conditioning the renewal or maintenance of their certificates of registration with the Commissioner of Transportation upon compliance;
- Funding to increase outreach and investigation of wage-hour law violations and enforcement of wage theft;
- Supportive services for victims of human trafficking, such as emergency shelter and medical care;
- Creating a statewide massage and bodywork practitioner license.

## GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSIBLE GUN OWNERSHIP:

- Significant gun violence prevention measures and efforts to support responsible gun ownership including:
  - The mandatory reporting of any lost or stolen firearms;
  - Strengthening laws regulating the transfer of firearms;
  - The prohibition of possessing replica guns in public;
  - Efforts and strategies that help local law enforcement track illegal guns; and
  - Restricting the access of illegal guns to young people.
- Prohibiting carrying a pistol with a blood-alcohol concentration of .08 or more;
- Increasing penalty to a gross misdemeanor for first time offense of carrying a firearm while under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance;
- Clarifying that uninvited people and trespassers on private land may not circumvent Minnesota's permit to carry law;
- Creating a misdemeanor to refuse to submit to a chemical test if a peace officer has lawfully placed a person under arrest for carrying a pistol in public while intoxicated;
- Allowing local jurisdictions to implement gun violence prevention ordinances different from state law that are appropriate to that community;
- Increasing discretionary power for local governments to grant or deny firearm permits;
- Authorizing and funding firearm safety and gun violence prevention research so that information can be gathered to best prevent firearm deaths and injuries;
- Raising the legal age for purchasing guns from 18 to 21.
- Banning the sale statewide of assault weapons, bump stocks, silencers, and extended magazines;
- Opposing legislation that undermines common sense gun violence prevention initiatives, including:
  - "Permitless carry" legislation allowing people to carry concealed, loaded guns in public without a permit or safety training;
  - "Stand your ground" legislation, which expands the circumstances in which people are allowed to use deadly force, eliminates the duty to deescalate, and creates legal hurdles that make it harder to hold shooters accountable.

## FIRE SAFETY:

- Efforts that oppose the expansion of the sale and use of fireworks;
- Current funding for the dedicated Fire Safety Account.



## Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention

The City of Minneapolis supports funding and policies that address affordable housing and issues of homelessness, including:

### HOUSING POLICY:

- Increasing housing security and preventing displacement of renters and homeowners, including just cause eviction;
- Providing cities with additional authority related to property maintenance and upkeep;
- Expanding the Tenant Remedies Act to permit cities to seek a court appointed administrator to manage rental properties in cases where the owners have failed to comply with rental licensing standards;
- Mitigating or minimizing rental conversion, including encouraging homeownership, or maintaining owner occupancy of tax forfeited or foreclosed homes by current or new owner occupants;
- Improving transitions from correctional facilities, including ensuring permanent state funding for additional prison discharge planners and the creation and funding for a jail re-entry pilot project;
- State allocation of federal tax-exempt bonds and 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credits that have broad stakeholder agreement, increase efficiency and maximization of these federal resources, and ensure that they can serve various needs on the housing continuum, including senior housing, rental housing and homeownership;
- Allowing repairs to be made on distressed rental properties, that keeps renters in place and the repairs could be financed with a priority lien under a Tenant Remedies action;
- Ongoing support for expanding homeownership opportunities for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities;
- Increasing consumer protections for homeowners who are part of Homeowners Associations (HOAs) in an effort to reduce foreclosure;
- Clarification for definition of “Publicly Owned” when applying for the Publicly Owned Housing Program’s General Obligation Bonds;
- Support a class rate reduction for community land trust properties equivalent to the existing 4d low-income rental class rate;
- Support policies that enable group homes to be located in all cities, while providing cities with the resources to ensure the housing is safe, supportive, and livable for vulnerable individuals and people with disabilities.

### FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION:

- Enhanced collaboration, funding and strategic coordinated leadership from the state to effectively respond to the increase in unsheltered homelessness in both Minneapolis and statewide.
- Continued funding for programs that help improve housing stability, such as the Homeless Youth Act and Homework Starts with Home;
- Ongoing and sustainable state capital and programmatic funding and other financial incentives for affordable housing, homelessness prevention, and naturally occurring affordable housing;
- Funding for local governments and non-profits to purchase homes for owner-occupancy to help preserve affordability and increase homeownership among people of color, and

- additional resources for housing preservation and mortgage foreclosure programs;
- Housing Infrastructure Bonds for affordable housing and General Obligation Bonds for Public Housing Rehabilitation;
- Appropriations for Minnesota Housing and the Department of Human Services at a level significant enough to have statewide impact on creating permanent, supportive, assisted, senior, and transitional housing that serve affordable housing needs across the housing continuum and throughout the City and State;
- New, significant state investment in affordable housing resources that can leverage investments made at the local level, including but not limited to a state match for local revenue sources going into a local affordable housing trust fund, or a new state housing tax credit;
- Homelessness prevention programs, including outreach strategies;
- Funding to assist communities with meeting obligations to reduce barriers to and promote fair housing and equal opportunity;
- Incentives for multi-family property owners to participate in the Section 8 housing choice voucher Program;
- Strategies to reduce the impact of eviction filings on future housing opportunities;
- Funding to support innovative housing and shelter models and housing first initiatives;
- Funding to address the fiscal cliff to stabilize existing homeless services.

## **City Livability and Community Wellbeing**

The City of Minneapolis supports a variety of policies that ensure Minneapolis is a safe, livable, healthy, accessible, and welcoming city for all to live, work, and play, including:

### **GENERAL CITY LIVABILITY:**

- Statewide aviation planning and coordination to diversify air traffic and maximize the efficient use of aviation resources throughout the state;
- Preventing, reducing, or mitigating noise and health impacts to airport adjacent communities;
- Amending the trespass statute to clarify that an individual may not enter a property after being told to “stay away” from the property, as opposed to being told to “leave” the property;
- Allowing cities of the first class to define “junk vehicles” in ordinance in a manner that may differ from state statute, for the purposes of towing inoperable vehicles;
- Clarifying whether the District Court or the Court of Appeals should handle animal seizure appeals

### **BUILDING ECONOMIC SECURITY:**

- Reducing access to and use of credit information and criminal records by employers, including mandated notification to job applicants of access to credit and criminal background check reports;
- Increasing the state minimum wage;
- Move toward eliminating sub-minimum wage for people with disabilities;
- Increasing funding for programs that provide basic economic assistance for low-income workers and families;
- Repealing the \$50 offset for households living in public or rent subsidized housing and

- receiving financial assistance from the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP);
- Supporting Transportation Ride Share Workers: Transportation Network Company Protections and all other gig workers;

#### PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING AND POLICY:

- Maintaining funding to community health boards for the Statewide Health Improvement Program;
- Support funding and policy changes to address hunger and food insecurity among Minneapolis residents, particularly racially and ethnically diverse communities;
- Continued funding for Local Public Health Grants;
- Continued funding for emergency preparedness and response including public health;
- Funding for and use of Health Impact Assessments;
- Expanding funding and reimbursement for services not currently covered by Minnesota's health care programs, such as public health efforts related to promoting reduction of childhood obesity, mitigation of asthma, and lead poisoning prevention and reduction;
- Improving reimbursement rates for all non-hospital health care providers that include considerations such as inflation rate inclusion and reduction or elimination of the reimbursement lag for providers;
- Effective, culturally appropriate prevention and treatment interventions for opioid use with funding for programs that have a long-term focus, behavioral health resources and support for housing services;
- Ongoing funding for naloxone (Narcan) availability and distribution;
- New and sustainable funding for programs funded by the Health Care Access Fund;
- Sustainable funding for local public health preparedness infrastructure and the ability for local public health agencies to receive disaggregated public health data to better allow for targeted prevention and treatment.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN:

- Sustaining the minor's consent law permitting adolescents to see medical providers for confidential reproductive, mental health, and chemical dependency services;
- Policies to prevent obesity and promote healthy lifestyles, such as strengthening physical and health education curriculum in schools;
- Ongoing funding for programs such as Farm to School to increase distribution of fresh foods in schools;
- Increasing the number of children who can bike and walk to school safely;
- Increasing funding for pre-school developmental and health screening;
- Identifying and replacing toxic chemicals in children's products with safer alternatives;
- Promoting youth tobacco control and preventing and eliminating youth tobacco use;
- Funding for family home visiting services, and increased reimbursement rates for home visit;
- Expanding early learning funding to improve kindergarten readiness, such as scholarships and other efforts to improve early learning;
- Expanding early intervention eligibility for young homeless children;
- Policy and fiscal support for changes to the Child Care Assistance Program.
- Defining school-based health care and maintaining and increasing state funding for school-based health clinics;
- Expanding state statute beyond education around HIV/AIDS to also address components of comprehensive sexuality education;
- Increasing funding for youth development, early intervention, out-of-school time, and mentoring opportunities;

- Supporting multijurisdictional efforts to allow local units of government to serve as a custodian of a college savings account and remove barriers that would count cash transfers against a household income.

#### ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES AND CLOSING THE HEALTH EQUITY GAP:

- Continuing policies and funding aimed at enhancing health equity and preventing and reducing health disparities in Minnesota.
- Increasing state funding for HIV and STD prevention and control, including Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) strategies.
- Expanding funding for Healthy Homes that seeks to reduce asthma triggers, and other indoor environmental health concerns.

## Creating Great Natural and Built Places in Minneapolis

### Environmental Protection and Sustainability

Minneapolis supports robust environmental policies, including:

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE PROTECTION POLICIES:

- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) initiatives and successful implementation of programs that require manufacturers to finance all costs associated with collecting, reusing, recycling, or safe disposal of their products such as but not limited to batteries, carpets, mattresses, electronics, paper products and packaging;
- The Right to Repair legislation;
- State efforts to collect more accurate solid waste data, including Minneapolis-specific data;
- The development of, and funding for, zero-waste initiatives that involve stakeholders in the expansion of strategies and incentives to manage all discarded materials to their highest and best use according to the waste management hierarchy set forth in the Waste Management Act that will help local units of government reach recycling and composting goals;
- Preserving local government ability to establish or modify organized waste collection services;
- Promoting healthy, sustainable products and processes;
- Legislation that has the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- Energy efficiency goals and activities by investor-owned utilities;
- Increasing distributed generation technologies, such as solar photovoltaic, solar thermal production, wind, combined heat and power for both public and private entities;
- Encouraging state and local governments to adopt policies and plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including land use planning and transportation investments;
- Directing state energy efficiency and renewable energy goals to be incorporated in local municipal energy franchise agreements;
- Legislation and administrative rule changes that facilitate and encourage composting and organics collection and processing;
- Efforts to set a uniform standard and create a path for cities to enhance energy efficiency and meet greenhouse gas reduction goals for multi-family buildings of four stories or more;

- Modernizing and expanding Minnesota’s Conservation Improvement Programs administered by energy utilities;
- Defining utility responsibility for anticipation and design for deployment of solar as it maintains its system;
- Legislation that supports the statewide prohibition of minimum parking mandates to advance state and city climate action and housing affordability goals;
- Repeal the preemption of a plastic bag ban;
- Policies to create a clean community fee.

#### STATE FUNDING AND RESOURCES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:

- Increasing state funding to local governments for rehabilitation of existing storm water, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure;
- Grants and other financial resources for investments beneficial to inflow and infiltration reduction, to minimize the risk of combined sewer overflows, or to respond to regulatory mandates;
- State allocation of 100% of revenue generated by the solid waste management tax (SCORE) to County waste management activities to be used toward efforts to advance waste reduction, reuse, recycling and organics programs to meet city, county and state recycling goals;
- State funding for research and training for public and private applicators of chloride-containing de-icing chemicals, and legislation to address liability concerns of private deicing salt applicators;
- Funding and policies that increase access for homeowners and building owners to new energy efficiency options;
- Funding or incentives for market development activities that encourage manufacturing businesses which produce recyclable materials to operate in the state;

#### AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY POLICIES:

- Ongoing funding to incentivize tree planting diversification, removal, and wood waste management;
- Research on methods, including insecticides, to treat Emerald Ash Borer to determine effectiveness and impacts on human health and environment;
- Research and funding to support environmentally friendly Emerald Ash Borer control methods;
- Incentivizing food to be grown, processed, distributed and composted locally;
- Reducing regulatory barriers and removing ambiguity in regulations related to retail food inspections;
- Maintaining constitutionally dedicated conservation funds;
- Requiring pesticides sold in Minnesota to indicate if they are pollinator friendly;
- Studying synthetic turf and crumb rubber, including a comparable analysis of alternatives;
- Research to address the spread of aquatic invasive species, such as Invasive Carp, Milfoil, and Zebra Mussels.

## Making Minneapolis a Hub for Economic Activity and Innovation

To ensure that residents prosper, and businesses of all sizes start, move, stay, and grow in Minneapolis, the City supports policies to strengthen redevelopment, economic development, and business development opportunities.

### Redevelopment, Economic Development, and Business Development

Minneapolis supports state financial investment and policies to enhance redevelopment, economic development, and infrastructure improvements for cities, including:

#### REDEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Increasing funding and flexibility for the state's Redevelopment Fund;
- Increasing funding for the Brownfield Clean-up program;
- Targeted funding and policies to encourage property owners to preserve and improve aging properties;
- Authorizing the transfer of the proceeds of the contamination tax to the Contamination Cleanup and Investigation Grant account;
- Continuing the Livable Communities Act programs;
- Amending eminent domain statute in response to the Minnesota Supreme Court decision holding that the fair market value of contaminated property in a condemnation proceeding is the value of the property as if the contamination had already been remediated;
- Eliminating rezoning signatory requirement for cities of the first-class;
- State funding, tax credits or policy tools that will assist with the conversion of vacant downtown commercial space to residential or new types of uses;
- Opposing the use of the SAC mechanism to subsidize and/or incent specific Metropolitan Council goals and objectives;
- Requiring input from local officials if the SAC reserve is proposed to be used for any purpose other than debt service, including pay-as-you-go (PAYGO).;
- Opposing increases to the SAC rate while the reserve is projected to exceed the Metropolitan Council's minimum reserves;
- A SAC policy that enhances flexibility in the SAC credit structure for redevelopment purposes and support continued evaluation of SAC fees to determine if they hinder redevelopment.

#### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:

- Funding for outreach and technical assistance, including funding for local governments, to increase the number and the growth of businesses owned by women and people of color;
- Funding for programs and organizations including local governments, to provide financial and business development resources, and increased access to financial and knowledge-based capital, to businesses owned by women and people of color, to assist with building capacity and improving management systems;
- State review and recommendations regarding elimination of unnecessary barriers to businesses owned by women and people of color, women entrepreneurs, entrepreneurs of color.

### Arts and Culture

Minneapolis is home to a rich, robust, and diverse arts and cultural ecosystem, with a varied tapestry of multi-disciplinary artists and technicians, nonprofit cultural organizations, for-profit commercial enterprises, arts service organizations, funders, social justice practitioners, institutions of higher education, historic theaters and music venues, and "unincorporated arts," such as street fairs and festivals. To continue uplifting all forms of artistry, the City of Minneapolis supports:

- Increasing funding for the Arts & Cultural Heritage Program, and to recommit new forms of support for Arts Learning, Participation, Festivals, Arts Access, Arts Tours, Folk and Traditional Arts;
- Increasing funding for the Minnesota Historical Society's Historical and Cultural Grant Program;
- Funding to support local artists that represent various communities (Native American, Black, Latine, Women, People with Disabilities, LGBTQI2S+, etc.) for a more vibrant, inclusive arts community;
- Funding for economically impactful, large-scale, major events that produce economic impacts on all levels of tourism including cultural festivals, arts festivals, large-scale citywide events, parades and entertainments, and community-galvanizing events that are deemed important on a cultural, local, national and international level.

## **Jobs and Workforce Development**

The City of Minneapolis Employment and Training is the administrative entity for the Minneapolis Workforce Development Board, which aims to reduce employment disparities and promote a diverse and inclusive workforce serving Minneapolis residents and employers.

The City is a member of the Minnesota Association of Workforce Boards (MAWB), which represents all sixteen local, employer-led Workforce Development Boards in Minnesota. The City actively supports MAWB's legislative agenda, which advocates for critical state investments in the workforce system.

Investing in Minnesota's strong network of local workforce development boards bolsters the City's ability to address unprecedented workforce challenges, especially for those in the city who are unemployed, under-employed, or under-represented in the workforce. Specifically, the City supports:

- Increasing opportunities for individuals with barriers by providing access to education, training, employment opportunities, and supportive services;
- Reducing income and employment disparities by providing workforce investment activities that increase all participants' employment, retention, and earnings;
- Preparing residents for careers in high-growth industry sectors;
- Improving the structure and delivery of services to address the employment and skill needs of job seekers, workers, and employers;
- Meeting the talent needs of local employers through the development of youth exposure programming and career pathway programs that prepare individuals for the needs of employers;
- Supporting investments in workforce development for childcare workers.