



2026 MLC Legislative Priorities

The Municipal Legislative Commission (MLC) is an association of 19 suburban communities working together to promote public policy decisions that are transparent, accountable, and equitable. We support strategic initiatives that help our cities, businesses, region, and state develop and thrive.

TOP TIER ISSUES – PRIORITY

Housing Production and Affordability:

- Expand TIF increment transfers to local housing trust funds and other programs to enhance this funding tool
- Provide greater LAHA fund flexibility
- Allow LCA grants to fund zoning updates that support local housing goals
- Reform insurance and warranty requirements to support more condo construction
- Allow city councils to adopt comp plan changes for redevelopment by simple majority vote
- Increase funding for NOAH preservation programs
- Increase state investment to promote new affordable housing development

Public Safety Penalties:

- Increase penalties for impersonating licensed peace officers, firefighters and EMS officers, making it a felony
- Prohibit non-law-enforcement vehicles from displaying equipment or markings that could make them appear to be law-enforcement vehicles

Local Sales Tax Bypass for Regional Projects:

- Oppose tax equalization measures
- Oppose limits on facility spacing and requirements for approval from neighboring cities
- Allow metro parks and trails as pre-approved uses of local sales tax revenue
- Add a CPI inflation adjustment so cities can fully fund planned projects

Broadband: Allow cities to franchise broadband/Internet providers in the public right-of-way



TIER 2 ISSUES – SUPPORT

Bonding: Support a robust, regionally balanced bonding bill that invests in essential local infrastructure, including projects serving suburban communities.

Local Cannabis Aid: Reinstate state funding to help cities and counties cover the costs of implementing cannabis legalization

Workforce: Preserve funding for workforce programs like the Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF), Job Creation Fund (JCF), and other initiatives preparing workers for high-demand, living-wage careers.

Park Dedication Fees: Allow cities to require dedication or fees from all development, not just new subdivisions, to support expanding park and open space needs

Public Safety Aid: Provide additional one-time funding for police and fire aid programs

Construction Sales Tax Exemption: Streamline exemptions for local construction projects with a clear refund process that reduces administrative burden and ensures full tax savings for public entities

Property Tax Relief: Support direct relief through Property Tax Refund and Renters Credit programs

TIER 3 ISSUES – MONITOR

EMS: Strengthen local control by ensuring input in state rulemaking, allowing cities to select ambulance providers and service levels, and providing tools for performance transparency

E-bike Safety: Support consistent statewide standards and public education to improve safety

Fiscal Disparities: Preserve program integrity by preventing revenue diversion for one-off legislative priorities

Local Government Aid: Support more frequent program reviews to reflect growing financial needs of all cities, including those not currently receiving LGA