



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – July 25, 2018

Agenda Item 6C

Voting Session

Resolution Authorizing Transmittal of Legislative Action Requests to the Maryland Municipal League

Recommended Council Action

Adopt the resolution.

Context with Key Issues

Member municipalities in the Maryland Municipal League (MML) may submit up to three Legislative Action Requests (LARs) each year for consideration as MML initiatives before the Maryland General Assembly. The deadline to submit for the 2019 Legislative Session is July 27.

The MML LAR process is as follows:

- Member municipalities submit LAR forms on issues they would like to have addressed by legislation in the upcoming General Assembly Session;
- MML staff prepares background on each LAR for the Legislative Committee to consider, as well as priority issues that were not resolved in the previous session;
- The Legislative Committee meets annually in August/September and chooses up to four priority program issues to recommend to the membership; and
- The MML membership votes on the recommended Legislative Committee priorities at the Fall Conference in October.

The City Council held a work session on July 18, 2018 and selected the following for submission to MML:

1. Legislation to support residents impacted by increasing property values and rents resulting from infrastructure improvements, transit projects such as the Purple Line, and redevelopment;

2. Legislation mandating coordination and cooperation between utilities, the State Highway Administration, and municipalities to minimize impact on residents and businesses during infrastructure construction and repairs; and

3. Legislation to enable municipalities to decrease dependence upon property tax revenue by having additional options for raising revenues through taxation, either by increased intergovernmental sharing of tax revenue or by allowing additional types of taxation.

Council Priority

Fiscally Sustainable Government; Community Development for an Improved and Equitable Quality of Life

Environmental Considerations

N/A

Fiscal Considerations

City revenue options could be expanded.

Racial Equity Considerations

Staff does not believe that the suggested legislation would have a disproportionate impact on any particular group.

Attachments and Links

- Draft Resolution Authorizing Transmittal of Legislative Action Requests

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

**RESOLUTION 2018-
Resolution Authorizing Transmittal of Legislative Action Requests
To the Maryland Municipal League for Consideration**

- WHEREAS, the Takoma Park City Council is charged with setting policy and pursuing legislative changes in the best interests of the Takoma Park community; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park is an active member of the Maryland Municipal League (MML); and
- WHEREAS, MML pursues legislative changes to benefit Maryland municipalities; and
- WHEREAS, the Council is concerned about housing affordability for residents in areas with increasing property values and rents resulting from infrastructure improvements, transit projects such as the Purple Line, and redevelopment; and
- WHEREAS, the Council observes that disruption for residents and businesses is exacerbated when there is a lack of coordination between utilities, the State Highway Administration and municipalities before and during infrastructure construction and repairs; and
- WHEREAS, Maryland municipalities have few options to raise revenue resulting in an over-reliance on property tax revenue; and
- WHEREAS, the City Council has identified several requests to forward to MML for its consideration as legislative priorities for the League.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Takoma Park authorizes the City Manager to transmit to the Maryland Municipal League the Legislative Action Requests:

1. the Council urges the Maryland Municipal League to initiate or support legislation or sources of funding to maintain affordable housing in areas with rising property values and rents resulting from infrastructure improvements, transit projects such as the Purple Line, and redevelopment; and
2. the Council urges the Maryland Municipal League to initiate or support legislation mandating coordination and cooperation between utilities, the State Highway Administration, and municipalities in order to minimize impact on residents and businesses resulting from infrastructure construction and repairs; and

3. the Council urges the Maryland Municipal League to initiate or support legislation that would provide additional opportunities to raise municipal revenues without increasing dependence on property taxes.

Adopted this _____ day of July, 2018

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk