



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – June 15, 2022 Agenda Item 3

Work Session

Draft Resolution – MML Legislative Action Requests

Recommended Council Action

Finalize priorities to be submitted to MML. Vote on a resolution is scheduled for June 22.

Context with Key Issues

Each year the City Council considers its legislative priorities for the upcoming session of the Maryland General Assembly, then works with the City's legislative advocates to promote and support the priorities. When priorities seem appropriate for consideration by the Maryland Municipal League (MML), they can be submitted via a Legislative Action Request (LAR). Submission of LARs must be authorized by adoption of a City Council resolution. The deadline for submission this year is Friday, July 1. A jurisdiction may submit up to three LARs.

At the work session on June 8, the Council met with Ann Ciekot and Suhani Chatalia of Public Policy Partners to discuss potential legislative priorities. The following categories were developed:

- Revenue - Potential revenue streams include sales taxes, cannabis, and condo/HOA fees.
- Environment - Focus on municipal authority for climate change policies, plastics regulations, and stormwater management.
- Housing - There is a desire to see more renter-focused legislation, including just cause eviction
- Vision Zero - Pedestrian and traffic safety.

Council Priority

All: Mitigate the Impact of COVID-19 on the Community and City Operations; A Livable Community for All; Fiscally Sustainable Government; Environmentally Sustainable Community; Engaged, Responsive, Service-Oriented Government; Community Development for an Improved & Equitable Quality of Life

Environmental Considerations

The Council considers environmental sustainability efforts when determining legislative priorities.

Fiscal Considerations

The Council considers the City's fiscal health and the promotion of opportunities for revenue generation when determining legislative priorities.

Racial Equity Considerations

The Council considers racial equity when determining legislative priorities.

Attachments and Links

Draft resolution

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION 2022-

**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 City Council has identified 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 MML the following Legislative Action Requests:

1. The Council urges MML to initiate or support legislation to increase authority for municipalities to collect revenue. Options might include the authority to collect a sales tax or receive a percentage of sales tax collected in the jurisdiction or; receive a portion of revenue generated by cannabis sales, ~~and/or collect a portion of HOA/condominium fees.~~
2. ~~The Council urges MML to prioritize support of renter-focused legislation, including just cause eviction.~~

The Council urges MML to initiate or support legislation that assists municipalities with housing and community development issues by:

- Giving authority for municipal or county governments to enact “just cause” eviction legislation if they desire.
- Promoting legislation or sources of funding to maintain or increase affordable housing in areas with rising property values and rents resulting from infrastructure improvements, transit projects such as the Purple Line, and redevelopment.
- Establishing energy performance targets in low-income housing.
- Creating an infrastructure repair and rehabilitation fund for condominium improvements.

3. The Council urges MML to ~~prioritize clarifying~~~~increasing~~ municipal authority to go beyond state requirements for related to climate change policies, stormwater management, and regulation of plastics.
4. The Council urges MML to prioritize support of legislation for pedestrian and biker safety, SHA responsiveness, and meeting Vision Zero goals.

Adopted this ____ day of June, 2022.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk