



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – June 14, 2023

Agenda Item 1

Work Session

Discussion of Legislative Action Requests to be Submitted to the Maryland Municipal League (MML)

Recommended Council Action

Consider and discuss options for legislative action requests to submit to MML.

Context with Key Issues

For the work session on May 17, the City Council received information on the MML Legislative Action Request Process. The Council may submit up to three requests for consideration as MML priorities for the 2024 Legislative Session. The requests should have broad benefit or appeal to municipalities in Maryland in order to be considered as MML priorities. Ann Ciekot, the Council's Legislative Advocate, will attend the work session (via Zoom) for the discussion.

The deadline to submit MML Legislative Action Requests for the 2024 Session is Friday, June 30. The requests must be endorsed by adoption of a resolution by the City Council. A resolution authorizing submission of Legislative Action Requests to MML is scheduled for June 21.

Mayor Searcy will prepare a draft resolution highlighting three policy areas as options to submit to MML. These include revenue generation for municipalities, housing affordability, and State Highway Administration (SHA) accountability.

The MML Legislative Committee will select ideas from among all the submissions and prepare up to four to be voted on by League members at the Fall Conference in October.

Council Priority

All: Advancing a Community of Belonging; 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 and sustainability goals 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 its legislative priorities.

Attachments and Links

- Legislative Action Request (LAR) Information and LAR Form
- Links that may be of interest: [Materials Prepared for the May 17 Discussion](#).

2024 MML LEGISLATIVE REQUEST

Name of Municipality, Chapter or Department submitting request: _____

Contact Person/Title _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone numbers: (Work) _____ (Home) _____ E-mail: _____

LAR FORM MUST BE RETURNED VIA MAIL OR E-MAIL NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2023.

1. Describe the problem or situation the request is intended to address:

2. Describe the requested legislation:

3. Describe how the requested legislation would remedy the problem:

4. The proposed legislation would address: _____ Only your municipality
 _____ Only municipalities in your county _____ Municipalities in the entire state
 _____ All counties and municipalities in the entire state

5. Would the proposed remedy have a significant fiscal impact on your municipality?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Could the problem be resolved by something other than a new law, i.e., action by another level of government or changes in administrative procedures?

2. If administrative remedies have already been pursued, what were they and what was the outcome?

3. What other state and/or local agencies, if any, would be affected by this proposal?

4. Have any state agencies been contacted about the proposal? If yes, what was their reaction?

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. Has the League considered this proposal in a previous year? If yes, describe any significant changes in circumstances that might improve its chances of success in 2024:

2. Has this request been considered by the General Assembly in prior sessions? If yes, please provide the bill number, year, and outcome of legislation, if known:

3. Has this proposed legislation been implemented by any other city, county or state? If yes, please describe where it has been implemented and cite any existing law or model code upon which the proposal is based:

Signature of authorized municipal, chapter
or departmental official

Print name & Title

Date

Please return LAR form to:
MML Legislative Committee
1212 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
ATTN: Bill Jorch
410-268-5514
E-mail: abigaild@mdmunicipal.org
& copy billj@mdmunicipal.org

Please indicate the date of the meeting where the governing body of the municipality, chapter or department endorsed/approved this request: _____.

Please complete this form in its entirety. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as well as documents related to your request. **Please return to MML NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2023.**

How MML Legislative Priority Issues Are Selected

1. The League shall inform all member municipalities, chapters, and departments that they may **submit up to three legislative requests each for consideration** as MML initiatives before the Maryland General Assembly by a deadline selected by the League.
2. The staff reviews these requests and prepares background information for the Legislative Committee.
3. The Legislative Committee meets to discuss these requests and to consider MML priority issues not resolved during the previous session.
4. A legislative request that is the same or as substantially similar to a request that has previously been considered and rejected by the committee twice within a four-year period coinciding with the current term of the General Assembly shall be excluded from consideration by the committee.
5. The LAR submission form requires verification that the elected body of a municipality or the membership of a chapter or department has endorsed a legislative request prior to submission.
6. The committee shall limit legislative sponsorship proposals to the membership for consideration at the fall conference to no more than four (4) non-prioritized items and limit the proposals adopted by the membership to four (4).