

City of Lee's Summit 2017 State Intergovernmental Program

Goal:

The fundamental goal of all City of Lee's Summit legislative and intergovernmental activities is to produce positive outcomes for the citizens of Lee's Summit as a whole. Numerous proposals in the General Assembly or by State agencies have the potential to seriously impact the ability of the City to carry out its overall mission. By taking a proactive role in monitoring and commenting on proposals, we are working to ensure that the citizens of the City of Lee's Summit can continue to enjoy the quality of life they have come to expect and deserve.

General Position:

As a general policy, the City of Lee's Summit seeks to preserve its current authority to govern the city, its citizens, and its property. The City may oppose any legislation viewed as detrimental to the City's strategic goals; or that is contrary to the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; or that mandates increased costs or loss of revenues; or that would diminish the fundamental authority of the City.

General Support:

The City will support initiatives that preserve municipal authority or that otherwise have a positive impact on municipal operations, including but not limited to legislation that would:

1. Maintain municipal authority,
2. Eliminate or reduce the impact of unfunded mandates,
3. Preserve local control over municipal revenue streams,
4. Increases the ability of Missouri cities to attract quality businesses and jobs.

General Opposition:

The City specifically opposes initiatives that undermine the local control of cities such as:

1. Preemption of local laws,
2. Unfunded mandates,
3. Limitations on the ability of cities to manage local revenue sources or to issue debt,
4. Restrictions on local right of way and land use authority,
5. Diversion of municipal revenue streams to other entities,
6. Elimination of proven economic development tools available to local governments.

Priorities or Other Issues to Watch:

1. Preservation of Local Self-Governance
 - a. Opposes legislation that will result in an unnecessary loss of local control regarding the placement or permitting of communications or other infrastructure.
 - b. Supports reimbursement to cities for direct costs of compliance with state laws, polices, and regulations and standards that impose additional costs and responsibilities on local governments, pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.
 - c. Supports inclusion of an opt-in provision for local governments on any sales tax exemption passed by the State. Opposes any sales tax exemption by the state that mandates a local sales tax exemption
 - d. Supports enabling legislation allowing airports to remove abandoned aircraft from airport property.
2. Transportation Funding
 - a. Supports appropriate funding for transportation in Missouri. We urge the General Assembly and Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) to devise a comprehensive plan to fund Missouri's transportation needs that includes a balanced blend of funding sources which may include, but should not be limited to: a modest increase in the gas tax, appropriate utilization of tolling, a minimal transportation sales tax, a vehicle mileage tax, state fee on natural gas and electric usage, as well as, other appropriate new methods.
 - b. Encourages legislation that would allocate direct funding for roads and highways within Lee's Summit. We also ask our local representatives support in urging the Missouri Department of Transportation to partner with the City of Lee's Summit to leverage combined resources to fund local projects.
 - c. Supports funding to maintain and support passenger rail services in Missouri including AMTRAK's Missouri River Runner Service.
 - d. Supports the continued funding of and administration of state aviation grant programs.

3. Public Safety

- a. Supports legislation to allow voters to broaden the scope of communication devices where users are levied a fee to support 9-1-1, with revisions to state 9-1-1 statutes to allow for either a county fee or a statewide fee on all communication devices, including landline, wireless and VOIP devices to support emergency telephone 9-1-1 costs.
- b. Opposes the preemption of reasonable, local regulation of vehicles-for-hire.
- c. Supports open records and transparency regarding video and audio recordings collected by public safety agencies, but ask the General Assembly and Governor to provide for the protection of individual privacy and integrity of open investigations when considering any related legislation.
- d. Supports authorizing a Interstate Compact with the State of Kansas for EMS agencies that will make it easier for agencies to cross the state line for mutual aid, disaster response, and patient transport.
- e. Supports legislation that gives authority and limits liability of EMS agencies in treating and transporting patients that are unable to give consent and standardizes service protocols for such patients.

4. Economic Development Programs

- a. Supports the continuation of proven economic development tools used to stimulate employment and leverage private investments, including but not limited to, the Missouri Technology Corporation and high-performing tax credit programs, such as the historic tax credit program.
- b. Encourages the addition of State tax credits and other incentives for projects that create and retain quality jobs or for capital investments in new or expanding businesses. We specifically support reasonable incentives for:
 - Investments in next generation businesses that focus on innovation in industries like healthcare, life sciences, and advanced technologies.
- c. We oppose efforts to reduce the effectiveness of such programs, including proposals to subject them to the annual appropriations process.
- d. Supports continued investment in the arts, tourism, and recreation as pro-economic development tools.

Partnerships:

The City will form strategic partnerships with cities, political subdivisions (counties and school districts) and private sector entities that share common goals with the City of Lee's Summit. Additionally, the City will work in coordination with organizations such as the Missouri Municipal League, Mid-America Regional Council, and Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce when their adopted positions are in line with the legislative objectives and goals of the City. The formation of strategic partnerships and coordinated efforts is intended to provide the City with a stronger presence in the legislative and administrative process.