

An aerial photograph of the Wisconsin State Capitol building, featuring its prominent white dome and classical architecture. The building is surrounded by green lawns, walkways, and trees. In the background, a dense urban landscape with various buildings and parking lots is visible under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

LMC Intergovernmental Relations Team

June 26, 2025

Your LMC Intergovernmental Relations Team



Anne Finn

IGR Director



Daniel Lightfoot

Senior IGR Representative



Craig Johnson

Senior IGR Representative



Pierre Willette

Senior IGR Representative



Beth Johnston

IGR Representative



Tori Kee

IGR Representative



Owen Wirth

IGR Representative



Ted Bengtson

Administrative Coordinator



Agenda

- Session Context
- Session Highlights and Outcomes
- Issues Panel
- What's Next



2025 Legislative Context

- New legislature – historically divided
- New chairs, staff, power sharing
- Budget year
- Financial outlook not rosy



2025 Legislative Context (Continued).



- Desire to “fix” past legislation
- Pressure for a bonding bill (no bill in 2024)
- Overtime – Special Session





Session Highlights and Outcomes



Bonding

Focus on state assets

- \$700 million in general obligation bonds
- Matching funds for federal money
- Pots available for qualified local projects





Environment

‘Lights on’ budget with few changes

- DNR groundwater appropriation permit fees increased
- Community tree grants
- Environmental review changes

Housing

Limited resources/continued bipartisan support

- \$18 million increase to housing program budget
- \$50 million in housing infrastructure bonds
- Local Housing Trust Fund grant expenditure timeline
- Link to landlord-tenant guide requirement





Land Use and Zoning

Hard fought session, finding a path forward

- Continued bipartisan focus on land use and zoning preemption
- No land use and zoning preemption passed
- Engaged in finding common ground/continued focus during interim – next session
- MHFA required to award additional grant points for zoning/land use provisions ordinance



Taxes, City Aid Programs

Difficult budget target, “small” tax bill

- No local government aid (LGA) cut
- Local government cannabis aid eliminated
- Local sales tax authority discussions, moratorium expired

Transportation

Difficult negotiations

- No major changes in city road and bridge funding
- Greater MN transit reduced by \$22 million for biennium
- No shift of metro transportation sales tax away from counties
- Funding for Local Road Wetland Replacement Program





Public Safety

Positive outcome for cities

- Duty disability benefits changes
- EMS funding for training, staffing, and rural uncompensated care
- Ongoing funding for:
 - Police training in use of force
 - Crisis response
 - Cultural diversity
 - Autism



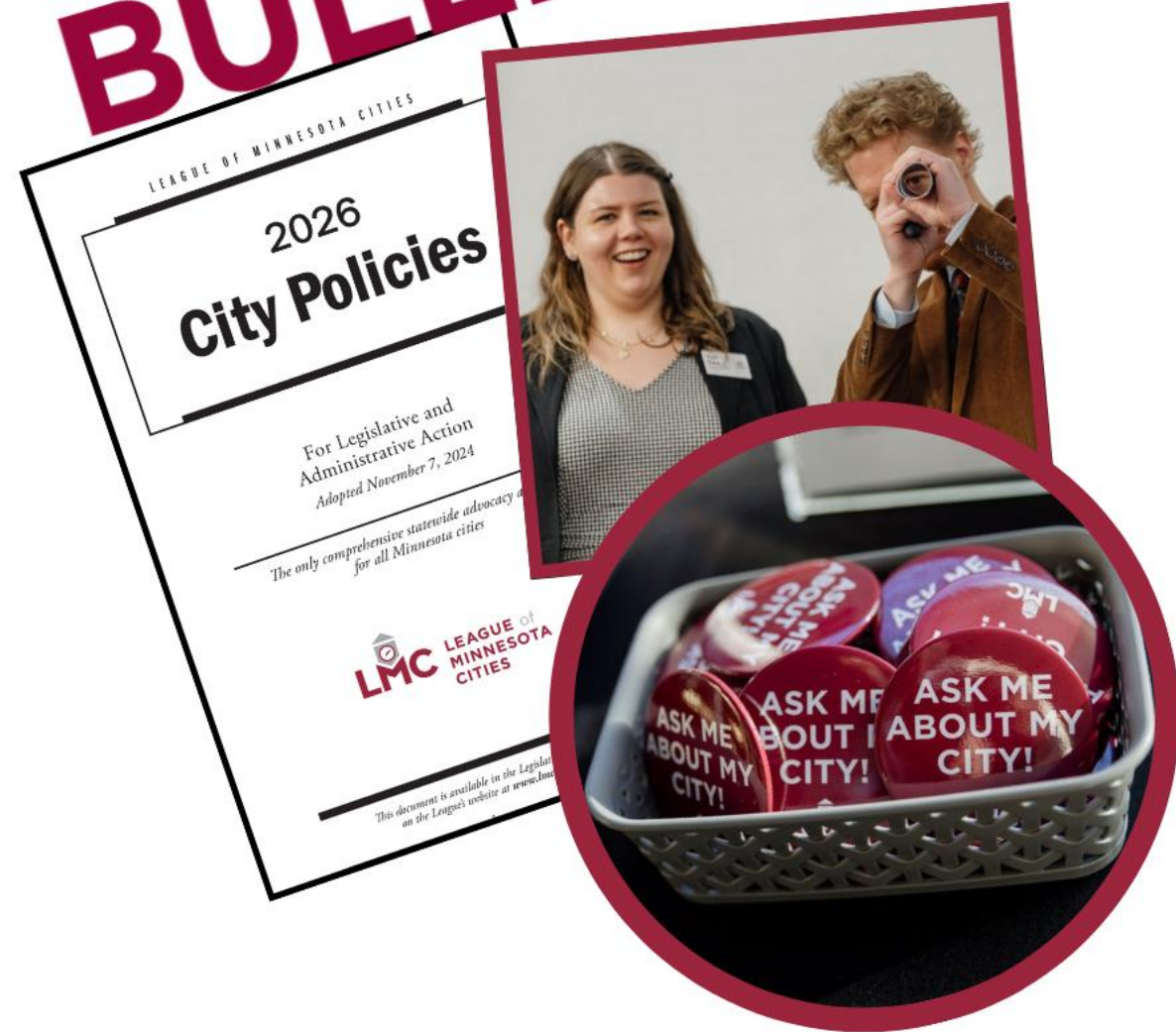
Panel Discussion



What's Next

- 2025 Law Summaries
- Focus on New Laws in Cities Bulletin series
- 2025 policy committees
- Meeting with your legislators

CITIES BULLETIN



Thank You

- Board and Executive Committee
- Affiliate groups
- All who contacted legislators, came to the Capitol, testified, or spoke to the media



ed, reqmt related to comprehensive plan amendmen
ies related to certain residential developments limit

Tuesday, March 11, 2025





CITY

FEST

**2025 ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

**CONNECTING
LEADERS**
.....
**CELEBRATING
COMMUNITY**



**JUNE 25-27
DULUTH**

.....
**DULUTH ENTERTAINMENT
CONVENTION CENTER**
.....

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