

This form serves to provide the City Council and IGR with key information on new legislative proposals. Please complete this form and return it to IGR.

Item Number:	7
Name of Legislation:	Authorizing city governments to have the option to require write-in candidates for city elections to register their candidacy prior to the election.
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background	County and state elections permit election officials to require a filing deadline for write-in candidates. An amendment to the statute would grant the same authority to cities for city elections. The amendment would save costs while still allowing for write-ins.
Sponsoring Department:	City Clerk
Submitted By:	Tina Sanz
Key Staff:	City Clerk's election staff
Statute Citation:	MS 204B.09 (federal and state write-in candidates) MS 205.13 (municipal option could be added here)
Priority or Support item?	Election bills are usually omnibus bills. The city could support a bill sponsored by the League of Minnesota Cities or Association of Minnesota Counties.
State Fiscal Impact:	None
Supportive Partners:	League of Minnesota Cities Elections Task Force has included this proposal to the Board. A decision on the report will be determined later this year.
Potential Opposition:	None at this time. May need accomodations for small cities.
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Gene Ranieri and Melissa Reed
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	Leaning toward support
Notes	

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Item Number:	8
Name of Legislation:	Authorize cities to combine polling places for municipal and special elections.
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	Under current law, third and fourth class cities and towns are allowed to combine polling places by passing an ordinance or resolution and school boards are also allowed to combine polling places for school board elections. The proposal would amend the election statute to permit large cities to combine polling places if the City Council approved an ordinance or resolution doing so. The City Council currently approves polling place locations and the legislation will not change that approval. If a particular election is likely to have lower turnout based on historical turnout data and City Council approves combined polling places for that election, that would provide cost savings as well as result in sites that may be better suited for polling.
Sponsoring Department:	City Clerk
Submitted By:	Tina Sanz
Key Staff:	Virginia Gelms
Statute Citation:	MS 204B.16 (Polling place designations) MS 205A.11 (School district polling places, combining)
Priority or Support item?	
State Fiscal Impact:	None
Supportive Partners:	League of Cities Election task force has included the item in its report to the League Board.
Potential Opposition:	
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Gene Ranieri and Melissa Reed
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	Support
Notes	Item also included a second item that would have allowed a polling place to be located up to 3 miles from the precinct boundary. The proposal has been withdrawn.

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Item Number:	9
Name of Legislation:	Allow for early voting in Minnesota
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	The proposal would permit eligible voters to cast a ballot prior to election day. In effect, early voting would eliminate the need for in-person absentee voting. Mailed absentee voting would continue. Minnesota only allows absentee voting for specific reasons, such as absence from the precinct. Many Minnesotans vote early for convenience anyway, even if they could vote on Election Day. An early voting system eliminates many of the administrative burdens and costs of the current absentee ballot procedures. In addition, unlike the absentee voting process, early voting allows the in-person voter to be treated like an Election Day voter - signing a roster instead of filling out multiple absentee ballot forms, and having the opportunity to correct any errors made marking the ballot discovered by the ballot tabulator. The early voting period could conclude several weeks prior to the election or could continue up until shortly before Election Day, as currently is the case with in-person absentee.
Sponsoring Department:	City Clerk
Submitted By:	Tina Sanz on behalf of the elections division
Key Staff:	Virginia Gelms
Statute Citation:	
Priority or Support item?	Support
State Fiscal Impact:	Needs to be determined. Could save local resources.
Supportive Partners:	League of Minnesota Cities Elections Task Fore has included this proposal to the Board. A decision on the report will be determined later this year.
Potential Opposition:	Some legislators have voiced concern.
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Gene Ranieri
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	Support

Notes	
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Item Number:	10
Name of Legislation:	Eliminate redundant voting equipment testing
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	To repeal the requirement that election judges compare the sample ballot to the electronic ballot display and audio ballot on assistive voting devices prior to the opening of the polls on election day. The test is already completed as part of pre-election testing.
Sponsoring Department:	City Clerk
Submitted By:	Tina Sanz
Key Staff:	Virginia Gelms
Statute Citation:	
Priority or Support item?	Support
State Fiscal Impact:	None
Supportive Partners:	Could be election officials and League of Cities.
Potential Opposition:	
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Gene Ranieri
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	

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Item Number:	11
Name of Legislation:	Background and financial check notification
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	Requires that, when initiating a background check, a subject must be informed of the check. And if a business screening service (provides criminal record information) is used, the subject must be provided with the contact information of the screening service. The subject must be told of their right to the background or business screening information and provided a copy at no charge if it is requested.
Sponsoring Department:	
Submitted By:	CM. Schiff
Key Staff:	
Statute Citation:	13C.001 (HF. 1684/SF. 2149 of 2010 session)
Priority or Support item?	
State Fiscal Impact:	No
Supportive Partners:	Data rights advocates, Second Chance Coalition, consumer protection advocates
Potential Opposition:	
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Melissa Reed
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	

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Item Number:	12
Name of Legislation:	Variance language for local governments
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	State law should be changed so that local officials have full authority to provide land use variances so as to remain flexible and respond to the unique land use needs of their own communities.
Sponsoring Department:	CPED
Submitted By:	Planning Department
Key Staff:	Barb Sporlein
Statute Citation:	
Priority or Support item?	
State Fiscal Impact:	
Supportive Partners:	
Potential Opposition:	
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Pierre Willette
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	

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Item Number:	13
Name of Legislation:	Establish the 60 DNL as the noise standard for the MSP international airport.
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	During the review of the MSP long range comprehensive plan there was no clear noise standard. The cities around the Airport advocated the 60 DNL while MAC insisted on the 65DNL. Cities around the airport may take official action (resolution or ordinance) to adopt the 60DNL as the local standard for comp. planning and development. MAC should, if the cities adopt the standard, also adopt the same standard.
Sponsoring Department:	CPED/City Planning
Submitted By:	Merland Otto - Airport Planner
Key Staff:	Merland Otto - Airport Planner
Statute Citation:	Amendment would be to chapter 473, the airport section - 473.601 to 473.680
Priority or Support item?	If the other cities adopt official action it would be a priority item.
State Fiscal Impact:	Unknown but could impact MAC
Supportive Partners:	Cities surrounding the airport
Potential Opposition: .	MAC and the airlines
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Gene Ranieri
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	

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Item Number:	14
Name of Legislation:	This Old House
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	The 1993 Minnesota legislature enacted legislation that authorized the assessor to note the value increase of an improvement to a homestead that is at least 45 years old. The value is not added to the property's value but 10 years after the improvement is made the value of the improvement is gradually added. The rate of value increase is dependent upon the dollar amount of the improvement. The homeowner must apply to the assessor for the program that was intended to spur the rehabilitation of older homesteads.
Sponsoring Department:	CPED/City Planning
Submitted By:	Jack Byers
Key Staff:	Jack Byers, Patrick Todd
Statute Citation:	MS 273.11 Subd. 16
Priority or Support item?	Not indicated but should see if other cities or organizations are interested.
State Fiscal Impact:	Minimal if at all
Supportive Partners:	None indicated but could include other cities including first ring suburbs and regional centers
Potential Opposition:	Assessors association which has traditionally opposed the use of the assessment system for "social goals". Tax Committee members and leadership have raised concern about added complexity to the tax system.
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Gene Ranieri
Covered in existing item?	No but was sponsored by the city in the 1990's. However the agenda (p.10) supports "continued review of the property tax code to encourage affordable housing production and preservation. The statement could be redrafted to note This Old House.
Priority or Support?	
Notes	Performance data and impact on the Minneapolis tax base has been submitted by the city assessor; reaction from Department of Revenue and Assessors Association will be sought.

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Item Number:	15
Name of Legislation:	Park Dedication Amendments
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	The legislature in 2007 authorized the imposition of a park dedication fee in Minneapolis. The city and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board have adopted an implementing ordinance. As a result of the local policy process, the enabling statute will need to be amended.
Sponsoring Department:	CPED
Submitted By:	Chuck Lutz
Key Staff: ,	Chuck Lutz, City Attorney
Statute Citation:	Original law is Laws 2006 Chapter 269. It has been subsequently amended (2008)
Priority or Support item?	
State Fiscal Impact:	None
Supportive Partners:	Park Board
Potential Opposition:	None at this time. Concerns were raised in 2006 by the business community.
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff:	Gene Ranieri
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	

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Item Number:	19
Name of Legislation:	Container Deposit Refund
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	<p>Requirement that all beverages sold in Minnesota have a redeemable deposit.</p> <p>A Container Deposit law (CDL) requires that a deposit be collected at the time of sale for containers covered under the law. When the container is returned to a redemption center, the consumer gets their deposit back. The redemption center gets money for handling the transaction and getting the containers to processors, and processors get money for their role in recycling the material, in addition to any revenue they receive from selling the recyclables.</p> <p>There are several states that have a container deposit on carbonated beverages, and maybe one or two that include water bottles. The Minnesota proposal is for all liquid containers for human consumption (milk, liquor, pop, water, juice, etc) excepting flavor containers (peppermint extract, for example). The proposed deposit is ten cents per container.</p>
Sponsoring Department:	Public Works, Solidwaste and Recycling
Submitted By:	Steve Kotke
Key Staff:	Susan Young
Statute Citation:	
Priority or Support item?	Support
State Fiscal Impact:	Likely some depending on who administers the program.
Supportive Partners:	
Potential Opposition:	
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Pierre Willette
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	11

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Item Number:	20
Name of Legislation:	Co-Composting Rule Making
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	Establish rules for the licensing of facilities to accept mixed yard wastes and household organic materials as co-compostable organic materials.
Sponsoring Department:	Public Works
Submitted By:	Steve Kotke, Susan Young
Key Staff:	Susan Young
Statute Citation:	
Priority or Support item?	Support
State Fiscal Impact:	
Supportive Partners:	Hennepin County
Potential Opposition:	
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Pierre Willette
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	

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Item Number:	21
Name of Legislation:	Design Build
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	The City supports authorizing all cities to use the design-build procedure and providing municipalities with broader authority to negotiate contracts. The design build authority was granted in statute in 2009 as a pilot program on a limited bases and limited scope. While this pilot program is still ongoing there may be an opportunity to broadened the existing authority or the scope of the pilot program in the upcoming legislative session. The City may also find an appropriate project and seek to participate in the pilot program.
Sponsoring Department:	Public Works
Submitted By:	Public Works
Key Staff:	Don Ellwood
Statute Citation:	
Priority or Support item?	Support
State Fiscal Impact:	
Supportive Partners:	
Potential Opposition:	
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Pierre Willette
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	

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Item number:	22
Name of Legislation:	Assessment Law/Special Benefit
Short Description. Please include a description of the current issue/problem, as well as any relevant historical background.	The City supports legislation that would clarify in state law that unpaid service charges or abatement of illegal conditions when being assessed should not be subject to the "special benefit" test which includes the benefit measured by an increase in market value due to that improvement. The special benefit test was created with traditional public improvements in mind and does not logically fit when a city is attempting to recoup costs associated with unpaid special charges or nuisance abatement activities.
Sponsoring Department:	Public Works/City Attorney/Regulator Services
Submitted By:	Robin Hennessy
Key Staff:	Robin Hennessy
Statute Citation:	Minn. Stat. 429.101, Laws 1969, chapter 499, section 2 as amended by Laws 429, chapter 587. Art 9.
Priority or Support item?	Support
State Fiscal Impact:	none
Supportive Partners:	League of Minnesota Cities, Metro Cities
Potential Opposition:	Minnesota Multi Housing
For Internal IGR Use	
IGR Lead Staff	Pierre Willette
Covered in existing item?	No
Priority or Support?	
Notes	