

## City Administrator Report to Mayor & City Council

August 12, 2016, Edition No. 232

### WEEKLY UPDATE:

- Vacation: I will be taking two last planned vacation days before our kids head back to school today and Monday to visit my parents. Call or text if you need immediate assistance.
- Library: Please hold August 25th for a special meeting on the library. Thank you for your responses.
- MFPRSI: Please find attached the MFPRSI Board Meeting Agenda for the forthcoming meeting on August 24-25, 2016.
- SBFL: Our committee recently reviewed reviewed 5 applications for the Small Business Forgivable Loan Program and staff is in the process of preparing a submission for the Federal Home Loan Bank's [Strong Communities Award](#) in cooperation with our three local banks. Below is a summary of the program.
- Auditors: The State Auditors were in town Monday and Tuesday to begin their re-audit. It appears that it is likely to take around 2 months for the State Auditor to prepare their report. This is actually a quick turn-a-round time according to the staff that were on site.
- CP: The City Engineer and Bolton & Menk met Thursday afternoon to review the scope of the project related to CP's raising the tracks along Mississippi Drive. We continue to press upon the CP that their scope needs finalized and a final agreement brought forward ASAP to keep the project moving forward on time.
- Dubuque: Just for information purposes, we noticed that Dubuque is preparing to build their first roundabout. Their website has some good information and videos on roundabouts. Here is the link: <http://www.cityofdubuque.org/2323/Roundabouts>.
- Leg Policy Committee: Attached is the current *draft* of the League's Legislative policies for the coming legislative session.
- Back-in : Linn Street is striped and signage should be up this week for residents to try out back-in angled parking. There were a numbers of resources in the last update, but Emily and Andrew are working to put out post in the use of back-in angled parking (how to), then benefits and hopefully a video as well. Please see the following blog post: <https://muscatineiowa.wordpress.com/2016/08/11/back-in-angled-parking-is-being-demonstrated-in-muscatine-heres-your-guide/>

### FHLB Strong Communities Award:

Every year the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines highlights the work our members do by awarding the Strong Communities Award to deserving projects within our district. The award demonstrates the value that communities throughout the FHLB Des Moines district derive from small business and economic development projects. The award recognizes projects that created stronger communities by measuring:

**"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any  
on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain**

- Impact - The project provided a solution to identified economic development needs of the community.
  - Results - The project demonstrated specific economic development benefits to the community.
  - Collaboration - The project included financial or human contributions from a FHLB Des Moines member financial institution.
- One urban and one rural project will each receive \$15,000 to support small business growth and economic development in their communities.

*NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MUNICIPAL FIRE AND POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF IOWA*

*WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2016 1:30 pm*

*THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2016 10:00 am*

LOCATION: MFPRSI OFFICES 7155 LAKE DRIVE SUITE 201, WEST DES MOINES, IA, 50266  
OFFICE PHONE: (888) 254-9200

*PRELIMINARY AGENDA [See Notes 1, 2, 3, 4 below]*

---

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2016

MANAGERS

I. MULTI-ASSET STRATEGY PRESENTATIONS

---

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2016

MANAGERS

A. SERVICE FIRMS REVIEW: INVESTMENT MANAGERS

CONSENT ITEMS

MINUTES

B. MINUTES AND SCHEDULES

1. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)
2. SCHEDULES – CALENDARS – CONTRACT SUMMARY

ACTIVITY

C. BENEFIT ACTIVITY REPORTS

1. COMMUNICATION PROGRAM ACTIVITY
2. DROP PROGRAM ACTIVITY UPDATE
3. SUSPENSION & WITHHOLDING REPORT
4. ANNUAL ESCALATOR REPORT

PROJECTS

D. DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM REPORTS

1. LEGISLATIVE REPORT
2. SUDAN AND IRAN DIVESTMENT REPORTS

## DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- E. FINANCIAL REPORTS
  - 1. STATUS & ANY PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF THE BUDGET
- F. BOARD INQUIRIES & ANY MISC. DISCUSSION ITEMS
  - 1) Administration Goals
- G. DISCUSSION OF LEGAL MATTERS, IMMINENT/PENDING LITIGATION CASES (Tribune Company)
- H. CONSIDERATION OF & DETERMINATION ON APPEAL CASE (NONE)
- I. INVESTMENT PROGRAM UPDATE
- J. INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT
- K. INVESTMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION & OVERSIGHT
- L. INACTIVE MEMBER MORTALITY ASSUMPTION
- M. 2017 REPORT TO LEGISLATURE

NOTES: 1) Subject to additions & modifications as topics develop. At the discretion of the Chairperson of the Board, the scheduling of individual subjects during the meeting may be adjusted to facilitate the efficient utilization of time. 2) You are hereby notified that the above named public body will hold a meeting at the dates, time and place specified. A vote may be considered to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(c)(f). 3) Consent Agenda: Subjects that require only consent or approval by the Board of Trustees, including informational topics. Subjects upon which information is provided for the Board but which will not be reviewed at the Board meeting except at the request of an individual Board member or the administration. 4) The Board of Trustees will work through the agenda until completion. Breaks will occur periodically as deemed necessary by the Board chairperson.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: October 6, 2016

## Iowa League of Cities 2017 Draft Legislative Priorities



**2nd Development Meeting Date:** August 9th, 2016 at 1:00pm via GoToMeeting

**Executive Board Approval:** August 18th, 2016

**Final Approval at Conference:** September 16th, 2016

Since 1898 the Iowa League of Cities has been a key resource for municipalities by serving as the unified voice of cities and providing advocacy to the State and Federal Governments. Each year, the League's Legislative Policy Committee meets in the summer to review the preceding Legislative Sessions impact to the League's Legislative Priorities. After that meeting, with the advice and guidance of the Legislative Policy Committee and the League's Executive Board, the Government Affairs staff adjusts the priorities for the next legislative session. After receiving the Legislative Policy Committees approval, the priorities are approved by the Executive Board and then approved by membership at the League's Annual Conference.

Below you will find the five priority areas for the 2017 Iowa League of Cities Legislative Priorities and the narrative paragraphs to describe those priority areas. Often, most of the Priority language remains the same because the needs of cities do not fundamentally change from year-to-year and there is value in consistent messaging. The proposed changes are a reflection of the input from the Legislative Policy Committee at the June 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. The red underlined writing is proposed new language – which will be the primary focus of our August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. At that meeting we will determine whether to keep or delete the red underlined writing. If you have additional proposed language that you would like considered please e-mail it to me no later than Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to the Leagues five priority areas, I have included a narrative paragraph that we intend to describe the services cities provide and the desire of cities to work as partners with federal, state, and local governments. A paragraph such as this could potentially appear on the marketing materials for the Legislative Priorities with the intent of informing people of what cities do and provide for citizens before telling them what we want. Please let me know if you have any thoughts about this paragraph or additional language that helps describe cities in a positive way.

### Five Priority Areas

#### **1) Economic Development**

Increase funding levels for quality of life initiatives and economic development programs such as nuisance abatement, CAT, RECAT, and the derelict building grant program; preserve economic development policies, such as tax increment finance, as flexible tools for economic growth in cities of all sizes; and provide programs and policies that further develop our local workforce to attract economic development to both rural and urban areas and help close the skills gap.

#### **2) Financial Sustainability**

Eliminate unfunded mandates; diversify revenue options available to local governments and protect existing revenue options and the services they support; and continue to ensure the commercial and industrial property tax backfill.

#### **3) Water and Wastewater Infrastructure**

Advocate for additional funding sources and flexible policies related to water, wastewater, and storm water infrastructure development to meet the demands of increased environmental regulation for cities of all sizes and support a clean water supply and the protection of public health and the environment, including the development of opportunities for partnership with the agricultural community and environmental groups to meet these requirements.

**4) Home Rule**

Promote cities as innovation centers and the incubators of ideas; Advocate for and sustain Home Rule and the flexibility to make decisions at the local level – where decisions are made closest to the people they impact and can be tailored to fit local conditions, needs, and concerns in order to better serve constituents.

**5) Public Safety**

Ensure cities have the adequate resources to provide and fund public safety services, including addressing costs under the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (MFPRSI).

**Narrative Paragraph**

Cities are non-partisan incorporated municipalities that provide a wide range of services for a defined geographic area. The Iowa League of Cities believes that the prosperity of the State of Iowa is connected to the prosperity of our cities. Responsible for providing for the health, welfare, public safety, sanitation, and recreational opportunities, cities are on the front line of providing the services that citizens need and expect. To provide these services, cities strive to create a strong partnership between federal, state, and local governments that is based upon a shared vision to provide a better tomorrow for all people of Iowa. Within this partnership, local units of government and individual communities need sufficient authority and flexibility to address the unique needs of their citizens and to meet the challenges of governing and providing public services. To promote financial stability, we advocate against the Legislature imposing unfunded and underfunded mandates that erode local control and create liability and financial risk for city taxpayers.

**Robert L. Palmer**

Director of Government Affairs and Legislative Counsel  
Iowa League of Cities  
Cell: (515) 720-4148

Iowa League of Cities | 500 SW 7<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 101 | Des Moines, IA 50309  
Main: (515) 244-7282 | Fax: (978) 367-9733 | [www.iowaleague.org](http://www.iowaleague.org)



