

-2017-

# Statement of Municipal Policy



# 2016-2017 GOVERNING BODY



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## 2017 ACTION AGENDA

**The prosperity of the State of Kansas is absolutely dependent upon the prosperity of our cities. Over 82% of Kansans live in an incorporated city. In an effort to promote healthy and sustainable communities, the elected and appointed city officials of Kansas hereby establish the following as our action agenda for 2017:**

- **Home Rule.** Consistent with the Home Rule Amendment of the Kansas Constitution approved by voters in 1960, we support local elected officials making decisions for their communities, particularly local tax and revenue decisions.
- **City Elections.** City elections should remain non-partisan and separate from state and national elections.
- **Tax Lid Election Process.** We support replacing the current election process for the tax lid law with a protest petition. The election process does not coordinate with municipal budget timelines, and the cost of elections will be excessive for cities.
- **Abandoned and Blighted Structures.** We support legislation that streamlines and expedites the process for local governments, neighborhood organizations and private businesses to deal with the blight of abandoned, nuisance, and foreclosed housing, and commercial structures to protect the rights and property values of surrounding property owners.
- **Internet Sales Tax Collections.** The inability of governments to collect local option sales or compensating use tax on remote sales continues to erode a viable and fair revenue source. The League supports state legislation establishing a program to help the state collect state and local sales and compensating use taxes due from in-state purchasers. Remitted taxes should be distributed using existing methods/formulas for the state and local governments.
- **Service Territory.** We support the current state electric utility service territory law. Municipalities must retain the authority to purchase, construct, or extend the infrastructure necessary to supply the cities and their inhabitants with public utilities, including electric services. We support the current statutory framework allowing city's jurisdictional limits to change over time due to the annexation of land, including land located within the service territory of another utility provider.
- **Weapons and Firearms.** We support the ability of local governments to set policies regarding the carrying of weapons and firearms by municipal employees while they are engaged in their work. Absent repeal of the current concealed carry law, cities should be provided civil and criminal immunity from the action of employees not required to carry a weapon but who choose to carry a concealed weapon.

- EMS/Hospital Funding.** Municipal hospitals and emergency medical services (EMS) are challenged in meeting their communities' needs. Between 2009 and 2014, city and county tax revenue budgeted for hospitals has increased 33.3% to meet these needs. We support the expansion of Medicaid in Kansas to allow such entities access to federal funding, helping cities maintain and provide critical services for their citizens.
- Streamlined Sales Tax.** We urge Congress to implement the mandatory collection of sales and use taxes on remote sales. The legislation should not preempt state and local sales and use tax authority. Should federal legislation allow for the state imposition of such taxes, we support the distribution of those funds to cities and counties using existing statutory formulas. Kansas should continue to participate in the Streamlined Sales Tax Project.

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## FINANCE & TAXATION

**An adequate source of revenue is necessary to fund the essential services of city government. Each city is unique in both services provided and the ability to pay for such services. Maximum flexibility should be granted to local governing bodies to determine the amount and source of funding for city services.**

- **Tax Lid Election Process.** We support replacing the current election process for the tax lid law with a protest petition. The election process does not coordinate with municipal budget timelines, and the cost of elections will be excessive for cities.
- **Internet Sales Tax Collections.** The inability of governments to collect local option sales or compensating use tax on remote sales continues to erode a viable and fair revenue source. The League supports state legislation establishing a program to help the state collect state and local sales and compensating use taxes due from in-state purchasers. Remitted taxes should be distributed using existing methods/formulas for the state and local governments.
- **EMS/Hospital Funding.** Municipal hospitals and emergency medical services (EMS) are challenged in meeting their communities' needs. Between 2009 and 2014, city and county tax revenue budgeted for hospitals has increased 33.3% to meet these needs. We support the expansion of Medicaid in Kansas to allow such entities access to federal funding, helping cities maintain and provide critical services for their citizens.
- **Tax Policy.** The League urges the Legislature to reconsider the imbalance in the Kansas tax system by returning to the long-established philosophy of balancing revenue from income, sales and property taxes. The income tax cuts approved by the Kansas Legislature in 2012 impacted the fiscal ability of the state and local governments to provide the services citizens want and need. Changes to tax policies should not be undertaken without a full understanding of the overall impact upon all taxpayers, taxing entities and the sources and amounts of tax revenues to be generated or eliminated by such policy changes.

## FINANCE & TAXATION

- Tax/Spending Lid.** Local spending and taxing decisions are best left to the local officials representing the citizens that elected them. We strongly oppose any state-imposed limits on the taxing and spending authority of cities and support the repeal of the property tax lid.
- Kansas Tax System.** Cities are important partners in creating jobs, reviving the economy, delivering vital services, and providing quality of life. The Governor and Kansas Legislature should include city leaders in discussions about restructuring the Kansas tax system and any changes should fully assess the resulting financial burden on local taxpayers.
- Property Tax Exemptions.** We support a broad tax base, and believe the existing property tax base should be protected. We encourage the Legislature to resist any proposal to further exempt any specific property classification from taxation, including industry-specific exemptions. We support the current statutory definition of machinery and equipment and the exemption should not be expanded. The Legislature should actively review existing exemptions to determine if they should continue or be repealed.
- Sales Tax Exemptions.** Given the current and future budget challenges facing state and local governments, we oppose the continued erosion of the state and local sales tax base by the passage of new exemptions. Should the state establish any sales tax holidays, the law should allow an opt-out for local governments. The Legislature should actively review existing exemptions to determine if they should continue or be repealed.
- Unfunded Mandates.** We oppose unfunded mandates. If the state or federal governments seek to promote particular policy objectives, such mandates should be accompanied by an appropriate level of funding.
- Alcoholic Liquor Taxes.** We support the current statutory framework with regard to the collection and distribution of alcoholic liquor taxes. Changes in the way alcoholic liquors are classified or where they can be sold should be revenue neutral to avoid a detrimental impact on local taxpayers.
- Property Valuation.** To maintain fair and equal taxation, we support appraisals based on fair market value. We oppose caps in property valuations as unconstitutional and inequitable.
- LAVTR.** The State Legislature, as required by Kansas statute, should help to relieve the burden on property taxpayers by funding the Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction (LAVTR) program. This should include keeping the promises made with reference to the machinery and equipment mitigation legislation, future gaming revenues, and the existing statutory formula.
- City and County Revenue Sharing.** The Legislature should fund existing city and county revenue sharing programs as required by Kansas statutes.
- Alternative Revenue Sources.** Cities should be authorized to approve alternative revenue sources in order to maintain appropriate levels of funding for the health, safety, and welfare of our citizens.

## FINANCE & TAXATION

- **Municipal Bonds.** We support the removal or modification of overly burdensome and costly restrictions affecting the issuance of municipal bonds. Further, we support the continued tax-exempt status for municipal bonds.
- **Telecommunications Taxes.** We oppose restrictions on the ability of cities to impose and collect taxes and fees on telecommunications providers.
- **Local Sales Taxes.** We support the existing statutory authority for all cities to impose local sales taxes and seat taxes and the existing statutory distribution for all sales taxes.
- **Banking and Investment Restrictions.** We support maximum banking and investment choices for local government. At a minimum, all cities, counties, and school districts should have the same banking and investment authority the State has granted to itself.
- **Unclaimed Checks.** We support legislation reducing the administrative burden and costs of processing unclaimed checks.
- **Tax credits.** We support the continued availability of tax credits as a tool for economic development.
- **Summary Publication of Resolutions.** We support legislation allowing cities to publish a summary of a resolution, with the full text of any resolution posted on the city's official website, in lieu of publication of the full resolution.



## PUBLIC SAFETY

**Cities play a critical role in the protection of the health and safety of the citizens of Kansas. Because mandated programs are costlier and less efficient, government at all levels should cooperate in the development of health and safety programs.**

- **Asset Forfeiture.** We support the current Kansas Standard Asset Seizure and Forfeiture Act as a component in reducing financial gains from criminal acts. All assets forfeited, or the proceeds of the sale of the same, should remain with the local government that seizes the property.
- **Municipal Court Bonds.** Municipal courts serve a vital role protecting an individual's right to equal protection under the law following arrest or detention. In order to continue to serve in this capacity, municipal courts must not be limited or restricted in bonding decisions used in their operations.
- **Municipal Courts.** We support the local control of and judicial authority of municipal courts and the appointment of municipal judges. All assessed court funds under a municipal court order, other than restitution collected and payable to a third party and state assessments paid under K.S.A. 12-4117, should be retained by the local municipality.
- **Law Enforcement and Public Safety.** We believe cooperative efforts, rather than state and federal mandated requirements, are vital to the efficient and effective development of local law enforcement and public safety programs.
- **Emergency 911 Services.** Cities and counties should maintain local control of the 911 system and the 911 tax should continue to include both wireline and wireless communications. We support legislation providing flexibility for local governments to utilize these funds to provide emergency services.
- **Emergency Management.** We request the Adjutant General and the State of Kansas review the role of cities in the state emergency management plan. Because cities play a crucial role in effective emergency management, implementation strategies must promote cooperative efforts between federal, state, and local governments.
- **Alcohol and CMB Regulation.** We support the authority of cities to license and regulate alcoholic liquor and cereal malt beverage retailers and establishments.
- **Firearms and Weapons.** We support the local regulation of firearms and weapons.
- **Homeland Security.** First responders at the local level serve as the front line defense in the prevention and response to terrorism and other security risks. Local governments should be granted maximum flexibility and discretion over implementation of monies and strategies regarding homeland security.



# INFRASTRUCTURE

Cities construct, manage, operate and maintain numerous infrastructure components that provide a high quality of life. Infrastructure involving transportation, municipal utilities, energy services, and water and environmental structures are all dependent on the ability of local officials to self-determine what's appropriate for their own communities. This self-governance relies on the expectation of cooperation from the state government and full funding as required by law under current statutory programs from both the state and federal governments.

## Transportation

- Comprehensive Transportation Program.** We support full funding of the Kansas T-Works comprehensive transportation program. We oppose any use of these funds to balance the State's general fund budget. Any reduction in T-Works funding jeopardizes existing programs.
- City-County Highway Fund.** The City-County Highway Fund is essential to maintaining local roads and bridges and should be fully funded and not be diverted for other purposes. Such funding should include the transfer of fees from the registration of out-of-state commercial vehicles, as directed by K.S.A. 9-3425i.
- Transportation Safety.** The State should work in cooperation with local governments to continue to provide safe roads and bridges within Kansas.
- Development Infrastructure.** Because transportation infrastructure is critical to state and local development activities, we support the continued maintenance and expansion of the transportation infrastructure in Kansas.
- Airport Funding.** We support the continued use of state economic development dollars (EDIF funds) to enhance airport facilities and services.
- Transportation Development Districts.** We support the continued ability of cities to establish transportation development districts to meet the economic development and transportation infrastructure needs in the community.
- Recreational Trails.** We support the development of recreational trails, including rails-to-trails, aquatic trails, and hike-and-bike on levee trails projects, and oppose any legislation that would make such development more burdensome or costly.
- Connecting Links.** The State should increase KDOT's funding for connecting link programs to contract with cities to provide for the maintenance of state highways within city limits. The last increase in the connecting link program was in 1999. We support full funding of the KLINK and Geometric Improvement programs.
- Cooperation with KDOT.** We support the continued efforts of the Kansas Department of Transportation to work with cities on cooperative programs, including the transportation revolving loan fund and various economic development projects.
- Rail Service.** We support existing and enhanced passenger and freight rail service in Kansas and seek a strong partnership with the state and federal government to achieve this.

# INFRASTRUCTURE

## Municipal Utilities

- Service Territory.** We support the current state electric utility service territory law. Municipalities must retain the authority to purchase, construct, or extend the infrastructure necessary to supply the cities and their inhabitants with public utilities, including electric services. We support the current statutory framework allowing city's jurisdictional limits to change over time due to the annexation of land, including land located within the service territory of another utility provider.
- Municipal Operation.** We support the ability of cities to operate municipal gas, water, electric, sewer, telecommunications, broadband, solid waste, stormwater, or other utility services. We further support the ability of cities to set and control the rates for locally owned and operated utilities, and support the current defined service territory statutes.
- Right of First Refusal.** We support municipal utilities having the ability to invest in new electric/transmission projects in order to provide reliable, affordable service to local customers. We oppose efforts to prohibit competition for transmission projects in Kansas.
- Franchise Authority.** We oppose any legislation restricting the current franchise authority for cities, including limits on franchise fees.
- Mandates.** We oppose unfunded federal and state mandates regulating the operation of municipal gas, water, electric, sewer, telecommunications, solid waste, stormwater utilities, or other utility services. Any mandates passed down to cities should not be imposed without a cost/benefit analysis and should be accompanied by appropriate funding. In addition, regulations should provide for a reasonable implementation schedule.
- One-Call.** We support a state one-call system that recognizes the diversity of cities in Kansas and provides reasonable options for cities of different sizes. The one-call notification center and board of directors should remain subject to the Kansas Open Meetings Act and the Kansas Open Records Act.
- Broadband.** The League recognizes the importance of affordable broadband services, as defined by the Federal Communications Commission, for all citizens in Kansas.

## Energy

- Statewide Energy Policy.** We support the development of a coordinated and comprehensive energy policy, including the use of renewables, developed with strong input from cities. We encourage the State to adopt legislation providing the mechanism and staff support for the development of such policy.
- Energy Efficiency.** We support public and private incentives to encourage energy efficiency by local governments and citizens. We support the promotion of energy efficiency in local government and municipal utilities' operations through programs that recognize the diversity of utility structures serving local governments.

# INFRASTRUCTURE

## Water and Environment

- **Water Quality.** We support a clean and safe public water supply and the protection of public health and aquatic life. We endorse regional and cooperative solutions to water quality challenges that address point and non-point source pollution while balancing municipal cost concerns.
- **Water Quantity.** Government at all levels should aggressively pursue the conservation, protection, and development of current and future municipal water supplies. We support cost-effective efforts to extend the life of reservoirs and to expand reservoir storage for use by municipal water suppliers. We support immediate state action, in consultation with municipal providers, to address over appropriated surface and groundwater resources.
- **Water Planning.** We support increased municipal representation on the Kansas Water Authority; broad-based revenue sources and distribution for the state water plan fund; and a reevaluation of the process for adopting the annual state water plan fund budget.
- **Infrastructure Funding.** We support increased federal and state funding to assist local communities with their water, wastewater, stormwater, levee, and dam infrastructure and associated security needs.
- **Stormwater Management.** We endorse regional and cooperative solutions to stormwater quality and quantity challenges that address point and non-point source pollution.
- **Solid Waste.** The home rule powers of cities to dispose of and manage municipal solid waste should not be restricted.
- **Hazardous Waste.** We support a comprehensive state-local approach to provide assistance in identifying hazardous wastes and to develop programs to monitor and dispose of such wastes. We encourage state agencies to work cooperatively with local governments in the development and approval of programs to identify, monitor and dispose of hazardous waste. Further, appropriate education and training should be provided prior to the implementation of such programs.
- **Clean Air.** We support air quality controls and a state developed air quality plan that protects the health and safety of Kansans while balancing municipal cost concerns.



# PERSONNEL

**City employees are the foundation of effective city government. City governing bodies must have the authority to develop local personnel policies to attract and maintain a high quality public workforce.**

- **Weapons and Firearms.** We support the ability of local governments to set policies regarding the carrying of weapons and firearms by municipal employees while they are engaged in their work. Absent repeal of the current concealed carry law, cities should be provided civil and criminal immunity from the action of employees not required to carry a weapon but who choose to carry a concealed weapon.
- **KPERS.** We support the full funding of the KPERS retirement system and honoring all commitments that have been made by KPERS. The local KPERS system should remain separate from the state and school retirement system. Changes to the KPERS system should not impact a city's ability to hire and retain qualified public employees, including any undue burden on hiring KPERS retirees.
- **PEERA/Collective Bargaining.** We oppose any federal or state mandate requiring collective bargaining at the local level.
- **KP&F.** We support the current statutory framework regarding KP&F. We believe the retirement system for police and fire should remain fully funded.
- **Personnel Mandates.** We oppose state and federal mandates involving public personnel.
- **Workers' Compensation.** We support reasonable and just benefits for employees injured within the course and scope of their public employment and effective enforcement of the workers' compensation act to eliminate payment of unjustified benefits.
- **Prevailing Wage.** We oppose federal and state mandates requiring or prohibiting the payment of prevailing wage.
- **Health Care & Other Benefits.** We support cooperation and active study of ways to relieve the financial burden of securing employee health care coverage, including the continued option for cities to participate in the state health care program.
- **Unemployment.** We support reasonable and just benefits for employees who are qualified individuals under the Kansas Employment Security Law. We oppose the finding that volunteers who are paid a nominal stipend are considered a qualified individual. We support legislation to define "volunteer" in Kansas employment law, such that it is consistent with federal law.



# GOVERNMENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

**Abiding by the longstanding constitutional home rule authority of Kansas cities, there is a need to ensure local governments maintain autonomy and the authority of self-governance to create a safe and sustainable quality of life for residents. In an effort to construct appropriate policies for their community, such as economic and community development initiatives, cities should be committed to implementing procedures which ensure ethical and transparent governance from their officials.**

## Home Rule

- **Home Rule.** Consistent with the Home Rule Amendment of the Kansas Constitution approved by voters in 1960, we support local elected officials making decisions for their communities, particularly local tax and revenue decisions.
- **City Elections.** City elections should remain non-partisan and separate from state and national elections.
- **Annexation.** The ability of cities to grow is inherent in the economic growth and development of the state. Therefore, we oppose any change that limits the authority of cities' orderly growth through annexation.
- **Sign Regulation.** We support the authority of local government to regulate signs in compliance with federal law.
- **Eminent Domain.** Eminent domain is a fundamental municipal power. The authority to acquire property through condemnation proceedings is critical for public improvement projects. We support increased flexibility for local governments to use eminent domain for economic development purposes, including blight remediation, without seeking legislative approval.
- **Interlocal Cooperation.** We support the principle of voluntary cooperation among all levels of government.
- **Governmental Immunity.** We support continued immunity for cities from tort liability.
- **Police Powers.** We support the authority of cities to regulate in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
- **Public Property & Rights-of-Way.** We support the ability of cities to control and manage public property and rights-of-way and to impose franchise or use fees on those entities that utilize the rights-of-way.
- **Consolidation.** We support processes for local consolidation without undue statutory barriers. We further believe the issue of consolidation is an inherently local one and the voters should be allowed to determine whether consolidation with another unit of government occurs.

## Community Development

- **Abandoned and Blighted Structures.** We support legislation that streamlines and expedites the process for local governments, neighborhood organizations and private businesses to deal with the blight of abandoned, nuisance, and foreclosed housing, and commercial structures to protect the rights and property values of surrounding property owners.

# GOVERNMENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- Economic Development Partnerships.** State and regional partnerships are vital to the sustained growth of the state and should be supported by policy and with adequate funding.
- Tax Abatements.** We support the authority of cities to offer tax abatements to encourage business investment in their communities.
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF).** We support the continued use of TIF to promote economic development. TIF laws should allow maximum flexibility and allow for efficient use by communities.
- Revitalization Tools.** We support the continued use of the Neighborhood Revitalization Act, the Downtown Redevelopment Act, the Transportation Development District Act, and the Community Improvement District Act to promote local neighborhood development.
- Tourism.** We support cooperative ventures between the state and local government in Kansas to promote tourism as an industry that is vital to growth and development all across the state. The State of Kansas should commit more resources to the promotion of tourism.
- STAR Bonds.** We support the ability of cities to utilize STAR bonds to promote economic development in their communities.
- Land Use and Zoning.** We support the ability of local officials to make land use and zoning decisions within their community, including decisions about the location, placement, size, appearance, and siting of transmission and receiving facilities and any other communications facilities.
- Moderate Income Housing Program.** We support the continued funding of the Moderate Income Housing Program to promote affordable housing options. Accessibility to such housing stock is important to job growth and economic success in communities.
- Exports.** We support the Kansas Department of Commerce providing assistance to Kansas businesses who may become Kansas exporters, whether by direct provision of services or through outsourcing.
- Urban Opportunity Zones.** We support the creation of urban opportunity zones as a tool to build and revitalize urban neighborhoods in specific census tracts.

## Government Ethics

- Open Meetings.** All levels of government should be subject to the same open meetings requirements. These laws should not be unduly burdensome.
- Open Records.** All levels of government should be subject to the same open records requirements. State laws governing open records should balance the public's right of access with the necessity of protecting the privacy of individual citizens and the ability of public agencies to conduct their essential business functions.
- Local Ethics Policies.** We support the establishment of local ethics policies by locally elected officials. We oppose legislation restricting the ability of city governing bodies to adopt local ethics policies for elected and appointed city officials.

## GOVERNMENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

•**Intergovernmental Dialogue.** Communication between all levels of government is critical to the successful delivery of public services to the citizens of Kansas. Representatives from cities provide facts and information crucial to intergovernmental relations, and as such, should have the same rights and responsibilities as private interest lobbyists. We support current law regarding the use of state and local public moneys to provide information and advocate on behalf of our cities and citizens. Any reporting system should not increase the administrative burden on local governments.

## FEDERAL ISSUES

**Local officials welcome the opportunity to work together with federal and state officials on policies impacting local communities. Federal agencies should research and understand the fiscal impact on local units of government when implementing new guidelines or laws. Cities manage their finances, infrastructure, and personnel more effectively without unfunded federal mandates.**

- Streamlined Sales Tax.** We urge Congress to take action to implement the mandatory collection of sales and use taxes on remote sales. The legislation should not preempt state and local sales and use tax authority. Should federal legislation allow for the state imposition of such taxes, we support the distribution of those funds to cities and counties using existing statutory formulas. Kansas should continue to participate in the Streamlined Sales Tax Project.
- Municipal Bonds.** We support the continued tax-exempt status for municipal bonds. Further, we support the removal or modification of overly burdensome and costly restrictions affecting the issuance of municipal bonds.
- Overtime Rule.** We support the Department of Labor reconsidering the new rule on overtime.
- Immigration Reform.** We support a federal solution to immigration reform. Any immigration policy should not negatively impact local governments with additional law enforcement or administrative burdens. We support Congress continuing assistance to under-served areas with large immigrant populations, who are attempting to remain in compliance with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- Transportation.** We support funding the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST ACT), which allows investment in critical infrastructure.
- Stormwater.** We support simple and flexible federal regulations of municipal stormwater run-off that allow for orderly and cost-effective development. The federal government should appropriate funds for research and for the development of pilot projects on stormwater management.
- Collective Bargaining.** We oppose any federal mandate that would require collective bargaining at the local level.

## FEDERAL ISSUES

- **Water Quality.** We support a clean and safe public water supply and the protection of public health and aquatic life. We endorse federal investments and cooperative solutions that address water quality challenges and take into account municipal cost concerns.
- **Hazardous Waste.** We urge federal agencies to work cooperatively with state and local governments in the development and approval of programs to identify, monitor and dispose of hazardous waste. Appropriate education and training should be provided prior to the implementation of such programs.
- **Telecommunications Data.** We support the continued ability of public safety officials to access data from telecommunications companies in times of emergencies to assist investigations.
- **Rail Service.** We support existing and enhanced passenger and freight rail service in Kansas.
- **Railroad Quiet Zones.** We urge Congress to reexamine the Train Horn Rule with the Federal Railroad Administration. Rules for implementing quiet zones should be less burdensome and allow for differences in community circumstances while continuing to protect public safety. We also request Congress provide federal funds for the purpose of establishing quiet zones and consider new technology which may enhance the safety of quiet zones while minimizing or eliminating train horn noise.



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# ABOUT THE LEAGUE

Established by municipal officials in 1910, the League of Kansas Municipalities is a voluntary, nonpartisan organization of over 590 Kansas cities. It operates as a public agency and is defined by state law as an instrumentality of its member cities. The powers and duties of the League are prescribed by state law and in bylaws adopted by the voting delegates of its member cities.

## **The League Advocates for Cities**

The League fields a legislative staff of six to represent cities at the statehouse in Topeka and, when appropriate, in Washington, D.C. The League promotes Home Rule, effective public policy, and the value of local control.

## **The League Offers Guidance**

Through guidance on new laws and administrative rules, research activities, publications, and personnel and contract services, the League provides insight and guidance to cities.

## **The League Provides Training and Education**

The League provides training and education for elected city officials and city staff through conferences, the Municipal Training Institute, webinars and workshops.

## **The League Keeps Cities Informed**

The League publishes a multitude of publications, provides numerous webinars on hot topics, and answers thousands of legal calls each year for cities to provide up-to-date information and keep members aware of the changing municipal environment.



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the League shall be to strengthen and advocate for the interests of the cities of Kansas to advance the general welfare and promote the quality of life of the people who live within our cities.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT

This *Statement of Municipal Policy (SMP)* defines the core principles of the organization. It was developed by city officials through the League's policy committees. There are three policy committees that are focused in specific areas: Finance & Taxation, Public Officers & Employees, and Utilities & Environment. The fourth committee, the Legislative Policy Committee, reviews the entire *SMP* and the recommendations of the three specific committees. The *SMP* is then submitted to the Governing Body and is ultimately adopted by the Convention of Voting Delegates at the League's Annual Conference. For more information about the League policy committees or process, check out the League's website at [www.lkm.org](http://www.lkm.org) or contact us at (785) 354-9565.





THE  
**LEAGUE**  
OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES

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