

September 2, 2014

MML Legislative Committee Recommends Priorities

The League's Legislative Committee on August 20 met and voted to recommend three issues as legislative priorities for MML during the 2015 session of the Maryland General Assembly.

For the sixth straight year, the Committee recommended that the membership adopt restoration of Highway User Revenues (HURs) as a priority. Over that time period, cities and towns saw reductions in HUR receipts of up to 95%. MML efforts to address this issue have in each of the past two years resulted in one-time restoration of over half of the lost transportation revenues.

The Committee also recommended adoption of a priority to address a question of whether an elected municipal governing body or a planning commission has final authority to dictate the shape of a municipal comprehensive master plan. The proposal also seeks to expand the time period during which an elected body may consider planning commission comprehensive plan recommendations before it must act on them.

Lastly, the Committee recommended adoption of a priority to modify state-imposed financial disclosure requirements for municipal officials to focus on issues more relevant to local municipal government interests.

The membership of MML will meet in Annapolis on September 12, 2014 to consider the Committee recommendations and approve a primary legislative agenda for the League in the upcoming session of the state legislature.

Spotlight Your Municipality - Customized Directory Listings Now on Sale

MML's Digital [Directory](#) receives nearly 1,000 unique visitors each month. That's 1,000 opportunities to attract a visitor or business to your town!

The directory remains an in-demand publication, so don't miss a chance to make your municipality stand out with a customized directory listing. Customized listings are spotlight pages that highlight your municipality's contact information with an advertisement. And new this year – MML will link all spotlight ads to the municipality's webpage making it easier than ever for legislators, constituents and visitors to find your municipal page. For the third year in a row, customized listing prices have remained the same - \$225, a 25% savings off the commercial ad rate.

As a special incentive, municipal advertisers are allowed to change their ad one time during the calendar year – perfect for promoting special events or initiatives. Check out samples of past customized listings and the contract via the [Ad packet](#). For more information contact Sharon at 410/268-5514 or sharone@mdmunicipal.org.

MML Conference Proxies and Absentee Ballots Available

Proxy [forms](#) and absentee ballot information were e-mailed in early August to each MML member municipality. Both offer alternatives to cities and towns that will otherwise not be represented at the League fall conference business meeting in Annapolis on September 12, 2014.

If elected officials from a League member municipality are unable to attend the conference, their municipality may be represented for voting purposes by administrative proxy (if a nonelected official from your municipality will represent your city/town) or municipal proxy (if a representative from another municipality will represent your city/town). Note that a MML member municipality may exercise a municipal proxy for just one other member municipality.

Absentee ballots, which are provided on request, provide a limited voice for those who choose not to use a proxy. Absentee ballots may be used only to vote yea or nay on (1) the issues recommended for inclusion in the League's legislative package and (2) any MML bylaws amendments that are considered at the conference.

Questions? Please contact Jim Peck at jimp@mdmunicipal.org.

Planning Committee Seeks Proposals for 2015 Convention

Is there a particular workshop topic that you would like the Convention Planning Committee to consider for the 2015 MML Convention in Ocean City? If so, please submit your proposal to Education Director Tom Reynolds at tomr@mdmunicipal.org by September 19, 2014 for maximum consideration. Each proposal should include a brief description and any recommendations you may have for potential speakers, length and format.

Nominate for Maryland Sustainable Growth Award

Know someone leading initiatives to advance community revitalization or resource protection? The time is now to apply for a Sustainable Growth Award, which highlights people and projects that advance smart growth and effective stewardship and, by extension, create quality communities.

The Maryland Sustainable Growth Awards celebrate significant achievement by individuals, businesses, organizations and local governments to realize the [12 planning visions](#) adopted by the Maryland General Assembly. The awards promote exemplary work that represents or inspires collaboration, innovation, conservation, community impact and quality of life. The awards ceremony will take place in January as part of a larger forum to be organized to showcase smart growth principles.

Applications are due September 19. Visit www.Planning.Maryland.gov/sgc to learn more and for information about how to apply.

Clean Energy Summit

Would you like to be more knowledgeable about energy cost saving solutions for municipal buildings and facilities? Need to better understand the best power purchase contract terms and how to deploy renewable energy technology in your city or town?

If so, attend the Maryland Clean Energy Summit 2014 on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 14 & 15 at the Marriott Inn & Conference Center in Hyattsville, Maryland. The event is hosted by Maryland Clean Energy Center with a special discount rate for MML members. A complete agenda and more information can be found at www.mcecs summit.org.

Want help with financing energy solutions for your municipality?

Summit sessions will connect you with Federal and State program managers that can assist. The conference is attended by more than 400 industry stakeholders, financiers, policy makers and technology experts who can be resource!

Discover products, services and technologies that will help your constituents, from residents to small and large commercial business owners, take charge of their energy reliability and expense!

To receive the MML special rate, simply go to www.mcecs summit.org and click on the registration tab. Enter promo **code PARG** to receive your MML discount rate.

For assistance the MCEC office can be reached by phone at 443/949-8505.

Grant Training Workshop

The Baltimore Police Professional Development and Training Academy and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in Baltimore, October 9-10, 2014. This training is applicable to grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you'll learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals. Beginning and experienced grant writers from city, county and state agencies are encouraged to attend. Click [here](#) for full event details.

Multi-enrollment discounts and discounts for Grant Writing USA returning alumni are available. Tuition payment is not required at the time of enrollment. Tuition is \$455 and includes all materials: workbook and accompanying 420 MB resource CD packed full of tools including more than 200 sample grant proposals. Seating is limited, online reservations are necessary. For more information contact the Grant Writing USA Client Services at cs@grantwritingusa.com or Sergeant Brian Dayton with the Baltimore Police Professional Development and Training Academy at Brian.Dayton@baltimorepolice.org.

MML Fall Conference Pre-Registration Ends This Friday!

September 11-13, 2014

[Details](#)

Classifieds

Classified advertisements from Maryland cities, towns, counties and other government agencies will be published in MML's *e-Bulletin* at no charge. If you would like to advertise an **employment opportunity, RFP, or a piece of equipment for sale** within the State of Maryland, please e-mail the ad copy, in a text only word doc, 200 words or less to [classified](#). Ads will appear for a 90-day period and can be resubmitted for posting if needed.

[Legislative Status Link](#)

[Classified Section Link](#)

[Important Dates / Deadlines](#)

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