

DRAFT 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY AGENDA

WHEREAS:

1. The purpose of the legislative priority agenda is to clearly outline the position and interests of the City; and
2. The legislative priority agenda will provide direction on the City's top five legislative priorities; and
3. The legislative priority agenda has been reviewed by the Legislative Team; and
4. The principles detailed within the legislative priority agenda are to be used by the City Manager and the Government & Legislative Affairs Officer in initiating, evaluating, and responding to legislation and initiatives that impact the City and its residents; and
5. The rapidly changing nature of legislative items requires constant attention and often swift action and response; therefore

RESOLVED:

I. The top 5 legislative priorities are as follows:

1) Renewable Energy

- i. Support for community solar legislation to allow individual actors and groups to produce solar power and feed that power into the statewide energy grid on an equal footing with the utilities
- ii. Pursuing the removal of barriers to city production of renewable energy to feed into the statewide energy grid and allow for long term financing mechanisms for building city owned solar capacity
- iii. Seeking funding and removing legislative barriers to electrify the steam district using renewable energy sources

2) Housing

- i. Removing barriers to density and promoting statewide building codes that allow for lower cost housing construction mechanisms
- ii. Authorizing local units of government to increase transfer tax rates and earmarking those funds for housing initiatives including lower cost rental units
- iii. Incentivize Accessory Dwelling Unit's (ADU's)
- iv. Amend Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) to allow single family residential to be included in the program

3) Economic Development

- i. Eliminate ground floor retail requirement in the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act, PA 147 of 1992, and align notification requirements for public hearings with similar economic development incentive programs
- ii. Encourage public investment in development programs that include increased housing to ensure all residents have safe, stable, and permanent housing
- iii. Support for state and federal investment in economic development initiatives in urban areas on an equitable basis

4) State & Federal Investment Priorities

- i. Equitable funding for district courts statewide to alleviate city expenditures for the 61st District Court
- ii. Establishing a Public Safety Trust Fund
- iii. Pedestrian and bike safety improvements
- iv. River restoration and revitalization project
- v. Lead service line replacement

5) Policy Priorities

- i. Encouraging the use of National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) standards for street design to provide more cycling friendly cities
- ii. Advocate for an amendment to the federal law to allow for charging stations at highway rest stops to encourage electrification of vehicles
- iii. Expand investment options to allow the City to further diversify the portfolio as market conditions change
- iv. Amend State law to allow for a single property tax bill

II. When considering proposed or pending initiatives and offering official positions, the City Manager, the Government & Legislative Affairs Officer and the Legislative Team will be guided by the following principles:

- 1) Preserving local authority as stated in the Home Rule City Act, PA 279 of 1909, particularly in the areas of employment, planning, zoning, and public works projects
- 2) Encouraging, advocating, and supporting legislation that promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion for all including:
 - i) Protecting the rights of all LGBTQIA+ persons;
 - ii) Hiring practices that promote equity, diversity, and inclusion for all; and
 - iii) Allowing all Michigan residents to obtain a driver's license.
- 3) Continued collaboration on reforms and investments for the betterment of all residents including:
 - i) Prevention of child lead poisoning & exposure.

- ii) Acknowledging racism as a public health crisis and supporting policies and opportunities to dismantle structural racism and achieve health and social equity.
 - iii) Support for legislation that would ban menthol in tobacco products.
 - iv) Restoring and maintaining Michigan's infrastructure.
 - v) Addressing emerging contaminant response to lead, copper and PFAS/PFOAS.
 - vi) Protecting and ensuring long-term viability of pensions and other post-employment benefits (OPEB).
 - vii) Improving transit and mobility while focusing on the options for bike and pedestrian safety.
 - viii) Support for increased mental health services for those in crisis.
- 4) Supporting policies that address talent and workforce development opportunities to include increased investment for attraction and retention.
- 5) Promoting policy and investments that increase accessibility of affordable broadband service for residents, as well as robust broadband infrastructure that supports business growth, attraction, and retention.

DRAFT