

LPC Minutes – September 12, 2017

1. *Approval of minutes*
2. *Resolution Logistics*
 - a. **Resolution Process** - Cameron Diehl explained the process that resolutions must undergo before being voted on by the general assembly. He reiterated that the LPC typically evaluates and may amend resolutions before reaching general membership but resolutions with sufficient sponsorship may bypass the LPC.
 - b. **Current Resolutions** - Diehl also briefed the LPC on a few of the League's pertinent current guiding resolutions:
 - i. 2007-01 Land Use Resolution – “ULCT strongly opposes any legislation attempting to take away or limit the authority of local elected officials to make land use decisions within their jurisdictions.”
 - ii. 2011-001 Resolution on local government tax structure – “any change to municipal funding should include the comprehensive input of cities... changes to the distribution formula creates ‘winners’ and ‘losers’ and should be evaluated carefully”
 - iii. 2012-004 Sales Tax and Economic Development – “formulate a strategy to create long-term sustainability in local government financial tools”
 - iv. 2016-3 Local Property Tax – “municipalities need to be able to obtain some growth in property tax... to avoid the undesirable effects of excessive dependence upon sales tax revenues”
3. *Transportation Task Force Updates*
 - a. **Task Force Updates** - Diehl updated the committee on the discussions in the Transportation Governance Task Force. He explained how rhetoric used by legislators was originally hostile towards local land use authority but with League pushback, has toned down. He emphasized the need for ongoing vigilance and that the League will continue to oppose any seizure of land use authority.
 - b. **Task Force Working Groups:**
 - i. Governance
 1. Some legislators would like to see a more streamlined system of governance for funding. The League will continue to push back on any suggestions that would erode local authority.
 - ii. Funding
 1. The League and its partners have pushed for the state to maintain and exceed its contribution to funding, rather than taking revenue from local governments. The State is considering the feasibility of implementing a road use charge to replace the diminishing motor fuels tax.
 - c. **Resolution Background** – Diehl contextualized the proposed resolution. As he explained, growing interest in developing new land and expanding infrastructure strains municipal land use authority. The resolution clarifies that cities and towns are willing to participate in attracting new growth so long as it does not infringe on their local control.
 - d. **Amendment** – Councilman Lynn Pace proposed an amendment to teak the language of the resolution. The amendment was adopted by the LPC.

4. *Tax Reform*

- a. **Update** – Roger Tew reviewed the State’s efforts to modify tax distributions. As he explained, everything is on the table. That includes the local option 1% sales tax and the manufacturing input exemption (which would exempt short-term manufacturing purchases). He emphasized to the legislature that both mechanisms are complicated and would be difficult to modify without adversely impact city revenues. The legislature might also be willing to offer Truth in Taxation leniency in exchange for affecting sales tax. The League has consistently taken the position that if the legislature wants to revisit sales tax distribution formula, they must identify sources of new revenue. Otherwise they will just be choosing ‘winners’ and ‘losers’.

5. *Other Key Policy Issues*

- a. **Updates** – League staff provided the committee with updates on several legislative issues:
 - i. HB115 Solid Waste Fees - September 12th was the last day to submit public comment to the DEQ for solid waste fees. The League and coalition submitted a letter along municipal governments.
 - ii. Housing Affordability – developers have continued to push for higher density. Cities are required by law to have a moderate-income housing plan.
 - iii. Operation Rio Grande – news sources have reported a disbursement of the homeless population. State leadership has requested accurate data to address this, so please let us know if you have noticed an influx of homeless people in your community.

6. *Adjourn*