

# 2011 City of Wichita State and Federal Legislative Agenda

**Approved by Wichita City Council**

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# State Issue Categories

- City of Wichita local issues
- Community Agenda (Visioneering, REAP)
- Home Rule, LKM, NLC issues

# City of Wichita local issue

## Special Assessment Fees

Sedgwick County collects interest charges on delinquent taxes, including special assessments due the City of Wichita. The County does not pass on any of the additional charges and fees to the City, even though the debt belongs to the City and the burden of the delinquent payment falls on the City.

- **COUNCIL POSITION:** Support corrective legislation requiring the payment of delinquent special assessment interest charges to the government entity that created the special assessment district.

# Most Current Report

## City of Wichita Delinquent Special Assessments and Delinquency Fees

- CURRENT DELINQUENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS  
as of June 2010  
**\$4,538,500**
- TOTAL DELINQUENCY FEES ASSESSED  
from Oct08 to June10  
**\$548,927**

# City of Wichita local issue

## Cereal Malt Beverage licensing

A recent ruling by the state division of Alcohol Beverage Control has voided the local practice of temporary licenses for sale of CMB.

- **COUNCIL POSITION:** Support corrective legislation restoring the City's temporary license authority.

# City of Wichita local issue

## State Water Policy

### COUNCIL POSITION:

The City of Wichita encourages a reevaluation of state water policy and governance, including the collection and distribution of Water Fund revenue and the legislative process for adoption of the annual Kansas Water Authority budget.

# City of Wichita local issue

## Residential fire sprinklers

The 2010 Legislature passed a one-year prohibition against cities requiring residential sprinklers in single-family and duplex residences. The 2011 Legislature will consider a permanent extension of that ban.

**COUNCIL POSITION:** Monitor the 2011 legislation and its potential conflict with Home Rule principles. Continue to explore possible compromises.

# City of Wichita local issue

## Passenger Rail

COUNCIL POSITION: Monitor state funding aspect. Continued support for daytime or a combination of daytime and nighttime passenger rail connecting Kansas City to Dallas-Ft. Worth through Wichita and Oklahoma City. The position is consistent with previous Council resolutions and the Downtown Master Plan recommendations in support of passenger rail.

# City of Wichita local issue

## Air Quality

COUNCIL POSITION: The City of Wichita encourages EPA to follow its normal schedule for review of ozone standards. A new designation should not be made until 2014.

# Air Quality (cont.)

The City of Wichita will also pursue the following outcomes during the interim period:

- Accommodate local concerns in resolution of Flint Hills burning issue. (State Burn Management Plan)
- Adopt voluntary initiatives.
- Verify activities in other regions which may reduce transport contributions.
- Develop a better understanding of the local health implications.

# City of Wichita local issue

## Economic Development

COUNCIL POSITION: City of Wichita supports continued use of effective private-public partnerships and the appropriate intervention of state and local governments to spur economic development.

# City of Wichita local issue

## E911

Legislature will consider renewal of current funding of E911.

E911 is administered by Sedgwick County, but City of Wichita law enforcement is greatly dependent on the maintenance of this service.

- **COUNCIL POSITION:** Support continued funding of E911 as a vital public safety service to our citizens.

# City of Wichita local issue

## Local Tax Issues

**COUNCIL POSITION:** Support public policy that vests local taxation and revenue decisions with locally elected officials. Oppose the constraints of state-imposed tax lids or other devices intended to alter the locally-determined tax structure.

# Community Agenda

## Visioneering Wichita/REAP

COUNCIL POSITION: Support Visioneering Wichita/REAP agendas:

- Affordable Airfares
- NIAR National Institute for Aviation Research
- NCAT National Center for Aviation Training
- CIBOR Center of Innovation for Biomaterials in Orthopaedic Research
- Equus Beds ASR (\$1 million annual/8 yrs)
- Reauthorization 1998 Workforce Reinvestment Act (REAP)

# City of Wichita local issue

## Home Rule Issues

COUNCIL POSITION: Support Home Rule and local control as the most valid solution for recurring legislative issues:

- Annexation/Eminent Domain
- Consolidated Local Government
- Residential Fire Sprinklers
- Solid Waste Franchising
- Public building concealed carry

# League of Kansas Municipalities

## 2011 State Legislative Action Agenda

COUNCIL POSITION: Support when consistent with City of Wichita agenda

- Oppose collective bargaining mandate
- Support 911 funding
- Support property tax cuts from gaming \$\$\$
- Support local control of local tax, revenue issues
- Review of cities' role in state emergency planning

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

- CATEGORY 1: Policy issues
- CATEGORY 2: Existing authorizations

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

## Category 1

### Wichita floodway system

COUNCIL POSITION: Petition the Federal Emergency Management Administration to provide the necessary flexibility allowing recertification in a timely and cost effective manner.

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

## Category 1

### 13<sup>th</sup> Street Flyover

COUNCIL POSITION: Petition the Federal Highway Administration for approval of a “break in access” on I-235, allowing construction of the 13<sup>th</sup> Street Flyover.

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

## Category 1

### Collective bargaining

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Support the National League of Cities and League of Kansas Municipalities in opposing any federal or state mandate requiring collective bargaining at local governmental levels.

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

## Category 2

### Land And Water Conservation Fund

COUNCIL POSITION : Support allocation of 40 percent of LWCF for state and local parks and recreation. Current practice allocates 84 percent to federal projects on federal lands.

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

## Category 2

### Equus Beds ASR funding

COUNCIL POSITION : Encourage Congress to honor the existing authorization of a 25 percent match of qualified local expenses. Eligible expenses will total \$29 million by end of FY2012. To date, \$4.1 million has been awarded. Under federal law, \$40 million is authorized.

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

## Category 2

### Dry Creek Retention Pond

COUNCIL POSITION : Request release of \$8 million in federal funds for the Dry Creek Retention Pond. Kansas Department of Emergency Management has endorsed the use of existing federal emergency management funds for the Dry Creek project. FEMA has denied the funding.

# FY2012 Federal Agenda

## Category 2

### Airport funding

COUNCIL POSITION: Support appropriate federal funding to assist in construction of a new Mid-Continent Airport terminal.

# National League of Cities

COUNCIL POSITION: Support NLC positions when consistent with City of Wichita agenda

- Partner with Cities to Save and Create Jobs
- Strengthen and Stabilize the Housing Market
- Invest in Transportation Infrastructure
- Support Local Energy Efficiency and Conservation Efforts
- Reject Mandatory Collective Bargaining