

# 2012 State/Federal Legislative Agenda

Submitted for City Council Approval

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## STATE AGENDA:

**Equus Beds Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project:** Support FY2013 state funding of \$1 million.

**Water Quality:** Promote science-based, common sense policies that protect the safety of the region's water supply while recognizing that the region's job creation potential should not be unnecessarily jeopardized.

**Water Governance:** 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 (Carryover from 2011)

**Affordable Airfares:** Support continued state funding of Kansas Affordable Airfares.

**NIAR/NCAT:** Support continued state funding as requested by the local aviation industry and the Sedgwick County Technical Advisory Committee.

**Municipal Court Debt Collection:** Support state legislation that allows the collection fee to be added to the judgment against the debtor when collected through the state's "Set-Off" program.

**Temporary Entertainment District (TED):** Support amendment to current law which restricts TEDs to three days. The amendment would allow special events to establish a TED for nine days.

**Traffic Safety Corridor (TSC):** Allow the creation of TSCs along certain high-risk state roadways such as the Kellogg Corridor. Under a TSC, traffic fines are doubled and the revenue supports a newly-created state fund for safety measures.

**RICO legislation:** Support legislative change that allows local communities to use RICO methods to fight repeat offenders and gang violence.

**Immigration:** Oppose state illegal immigration measures that place unreasonable burdens on local government.

**Economic Development:** Support local governments' continued authority to use existing economic incentives.

**Workforce Development:** Support state funding to maintain the knowledge-based highly skilled workforce that ensures the region's competitive manufacturing cluster can continue to compete in an increasingly global environment. A quality workforce is our community's single greatest economic development asset and the key to future economic growth. Special attention should be given to the education pipeline that prepares students for post-secondary engineering and technical education programs. A workforce development strategy for local communities and the State of Kansas should acknowledge the challenge of an increasingly diverse student population and the need to replace 5,000 skilled aviation workers who will leave the workforce in the next several years.

**Tax Reform:** Encourage the Governor and Kansas Legislature to evaluate the impact of any major tax reform measure on local governments. Changes in state tax policy should not occur at the expense of local governments by shifting responsibilities and fiscal obligations from the state to local taxpayers.

**League of Kansas Municipalities agenda:** Support LKM agenda items that are consistent with City of Wichita positions. <http://www.lkm.org/smp/2012-municipal-policy-draft.pdf>

**Community Agenda/Visioneering/REAP:** Support Visioneering Wichita/REAP agendas:

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

## FEDERAL AGENDA:

**Equus Beds Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project:** Encourage appropriation of \$22.3 million in remaining eligibility from 2006 Congressional authorization.

**Aircraft industry taxation:** Opposition to federal tax changes that discourage general aviation sales.

**Mid-Continent Air Terminal:** Encourage federal funding from existing programs.

**Community Development Block Grants:** Support funding job opportunities for low income youth and adults and “Project Rebuild” which targets blighted residential and commercial properties.

**Flood Control:** Support reconsideration of FEMA funding for the Dry Creek Overflow Detention Facility.

**Air Quality:** Support continued analysis of the necessity for more stringent ozone standards for the City of Wichita.

**Community Access Preservation (CAP) Act:** Support federal legislation that requires cable operators to remit up to 2 percent of their video revenue to local governments as a dedicated source of funding for the local PEG channel (City7).

**National League of Cities Agenda:** Support NLC agenda when consistent with City of Wichita positions. Current NLC agenda includes: Fix Broken Immigration System; Invest in Transportation Infrastructure; Support Community Development Block Grants/Create Hometown Jobs.