



2021 Legislative Priorities

Capital Outlay

- Support capital outlay requests of member governments
- Monitor legislation that proposes changes to the administration and awarding of capital outlay funding

Transportation

- Support funding request from the Rio Metro Regional Transit District for construction and operational costs for Positive Train Control
- Support the New Mexico Rail Runner Express program and advocate for improvement of transit services
- Support initiatives that improve regional transportation, such as the UNM/CNM Corridor transit implementation and the Los Lunas River Crossing Corridor
- Support the Statewide Development of New Mexico Complete Streets Policies
- Support initiatives or memorials that promote autonomous vehicle deployment on the statewide or municipal level
- Support initiatives that improve rural transportation infrastructure, regional coordination and planning.

Economic Development

- Support entrepreneurship through accelerators, makerspaces, and incubators
- Support local business development initiatives
- Support funding for key infrastructure that improves economic development, especially transit-oriented and cargo-oriented economic development

Water Policy

- Encourage coordination of regional water plans and implementation of the policies, projects and programs specified in the water plans
- Support State funding to capitalize the Water Trust Fund
- Establish and maintain an aquifer measurement and monitoring program
- Support statewide water conservation strategies
- Support forest and watershed restoration programs
- Monitor any legislation relating to water resources and impact on member governments

COVID-19

- Support legislation that provides COVID Relief funding to local governments to provide for additional services or revenue replacement
- Monitor and report on legislation that increases funding to the Unemployment program
- Support legislation that provides additional funding for New Mexico businesses during the duration of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Support implementation of economic recovery & resilience plans for communities impacted by COVID-19
- Assist local, state, and federally led coronavirus recovery planning efforts
- Facilitate implementation of local disaster recovery economic development projects

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Issues that Impact Local Government Authority

- Support legislation granting more authority to local government to set property tax mill rates.
- Monitor any legislation that impacts Local Revenues and Local Authority
- Monitor legislation that proposes changes to the imposition of Gross Receipts tax to offset loss of Hold Harmless revenue
- Monitor legislation on State tax policy and effects on local government including proposed legislation to eliminate credits, deductions and exemptions— how tax credits, deductions, and exemptions impact local revenue
- Protect local revenues
- Protect local funding sources
- Protect regulatory authority of member governments
- Support legislation that provides funding and authority for behavioral health services
- Support proposed changes to the Small Cities & Counties Assistance Fund
- Monitor legislation related to public safety and sentencing that may create unfunded mandates on local governments

Civil Rights Commission

- Oppose the legislation proposed by the Civil Rights Commission as drafted which includes
 - creation of a new cause of action for violation of the rights of an individual based upon the New Mexico Constitution
 - awards attorney's fees to the prevailing party
 - no cap on damage awards
 - cause of action applies to actions of any public employee
- Support the NM Municipal League Legislative priority for the Creation of a Police Reform Committee
 - request the Governor appoint and convene a committee of police executives, elected officials, community members and other stakeholders to identify and set goals and priorities for police reform
 - Encourage the Legislature to consider a well-reasoned and comprehensive approach to law enforcement reform
 - Support legislation to provide funding and statutory support for mental health resources and crisis intervention teams
 - Support legislation and funding to increase the availability of services for behavioral health and substance abuse
 - Support legislation and funding efforts to provide an increased level of training for government employees to deal with individuals in behavioral health crisis
 - Support legislation that changes the makeup and powers of the Law Enforcement Academy Board to enhance their enforcement authority and to enhance the ability of the LEA to track, discipline and make determinations regarding the continued certification of law enforcement officers with a history of disciplinary issues

Miscellaneous

- Monitor legislation that proposes changes to the PERA and ERA retirement of public employees. Ensure that any proposed legislation has a minimal or manageable impact on member governments as employers
- Monitor and report on proposed use of the Permanent Fund to provide education funding
- Monitor changes to Inspection of Public Records Act and Open Meetings Act