



LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES

# 2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The League of Minnesota Cities promotes excellence in local government through effective advocacy, expert analysis, and trusted guidance for all 853 Minnesota cities.

## Allow cities to adequately navigate and respond to economic challenges.

Due to the projected state budget deficit for fiscal year 2022-2023, League IGR staff will focus on protecting, preserving, and defending the ability of cities to adequately finance and provide important municipal services. This includes advocating for funding of local government aid, defending against unfunded mandates, and preserving city authority to establish and collect infrastructure fees.

## Ensure cities have tools to effectively respond to COVID-19 and manage city operations.

The pandemic has created an unprecedented strain on city budgets and operations as cities work tirelessly to provide services to residents. To do so, cities must retain local control and flexibility in conducting city operations in an open and transparent way; cities must also have direct access to state and federal funds to continue to respond to COVID-19.

## Partner to create safe and inclusive communities and address racial inequities.

The recent killing of George Floyd has again illuminated deep and systemic racial inequities in communities across Minnesota. As cities continue to work on ending and preventing racism, state partnership is needed to address issues related to policing, housing, and employment practices.



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# INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS STAFF

The League's Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) staff work on legislative issues that matter to cities. Feel free to contact our IGR staff members with any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding legislative issues.

## We're here to help!

IGR staff and the legislative issues they cover are listed here.

Not sure who to contact? Assistant Director Anne Finn (information right) is happy to help direct you to the right staffer for complex or miscellaneous issues.

### Gary Carlson

Director

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@garyncarlson



- Aid to cities
- Economic development
- Pensions & retirement
- Public finances
- Taxes
- Tax increment financing (TIF)
- Workers' compensation

### Anne Finn

Assistant Director

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- Emergency management
- Employment & human resources
- Public safety
- State bonding
- Transportation

### Craig Johnson

Representative

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- Energy
- Environment
- Land use & annexation
- Local/tribal relations
- State bonding
- Sustainable development
- Wastewater, drinking water, & stormwater

### Irene Kao

Counsel

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- Building code
- Civil liability
- Data practices & Open Meeting Law
- Employment law
- Land use & zoning

### Daniel Lightfoot

Representative

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@dfightfoot



- Broadband
- Cable/franchising
- Federal relations & advocacy
- Housing
- Telecommunications, information technology, & wireless infrastructure

### Ann Lindstrom

Representative

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- Elections
- Employment & human resources
- Federal relations & advocacy
- Local/state regulation & licensing
- Preemption

### Ted Bengtson

Administrative Coordinator

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- General
- Member relations