

METRO CITIES (ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES)

- Metro Cities is a non-partisan association representing the shared interests of metropolitan cities at the Legislature, Executive Branch and Metropolitan Council.
- The association's jurisdiction is the seven-county region and its membership, which includes cities of all types and sizes, encompasses over 95% of the region's population.
- The association is the only metro-wide entity that monitors and lobbies the Metropolitan Council.
- The association is governed by a 19-member Board of Directors, with elected and appointed city officials, and has a four-person permanent staff.
- Metro Cities' members review, develop and recommend the association's legislative policies each year. Policies serve as the foundation of Metro Cities' work at the State Capitol. Policies address transportation, revenues, taxes and aids, local authority, housing funding and tools, economic development, fiscal disparities, utility rates, and environmental issues, among others.
- Examples of association policies and positions that have nexus to the Local Government Division include but are not limited to:
 - State mandates and local authority (land use and zoning, local public rights of way, budget and levy setting, etc.)
 - Regional governance
 - Metropolitan Fiscal Disparities Program
 - Building Codes
 - Comprehensive planning
 - Peace Offer Arbitration Reform
 - Organized Waste Collection
 - Statewide regulations (ie massage therapists, harmful substances)
 - Race equity