

Local Government Aid and Greater MN

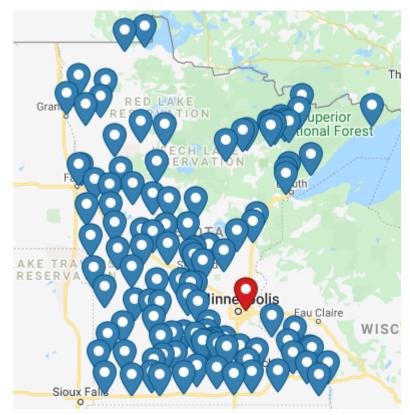
House Property and Local Tax Division, Feb. 2, 2022 Bradley Peterson

About the Coalition of Greater MN Cities (CGMC)

•Over 110 member cities across the state

•CGMC cities are dedicated to a strong Greater Minnesota

•Work on issues related to Local Government Aid (LGA) and property taxes, water infrastructure, child care, and housing





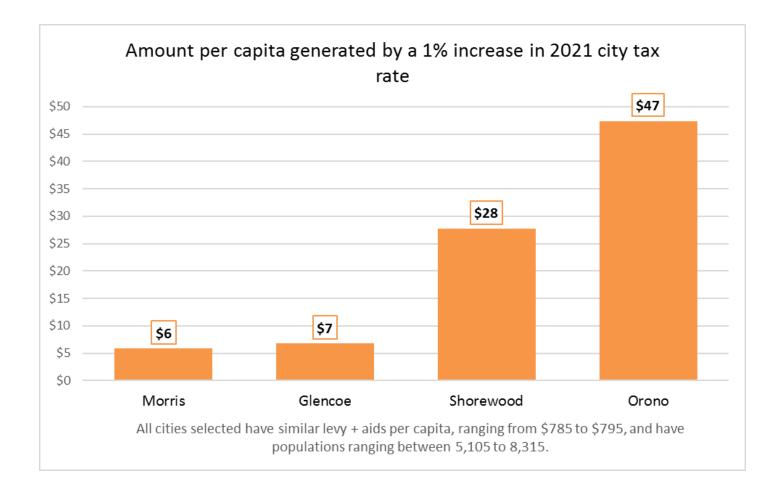
LGA is <u>critical</u> to Greater MN

LGA helps cities provide quality public services that residents and businesses rely on

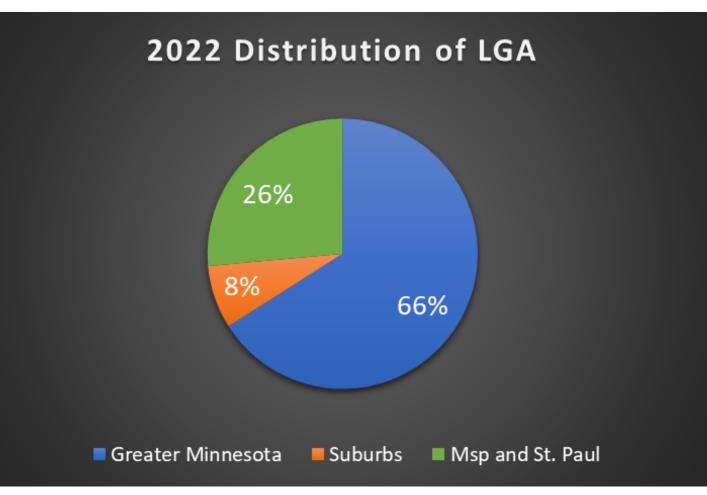
- Police and fire protection
- Parks and recreation
- Libraries
- Water and wastewater infrastructure
- Economic development

Property tax restraint

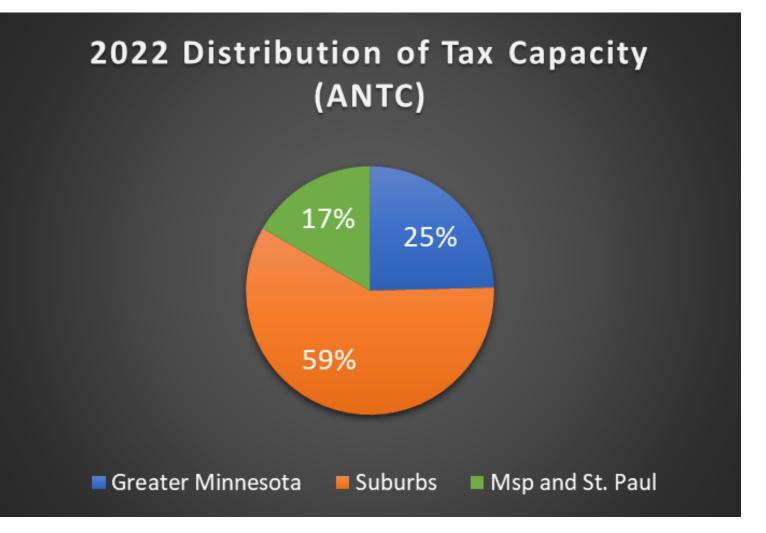
Protecting and enhancing LGA is our highest priority



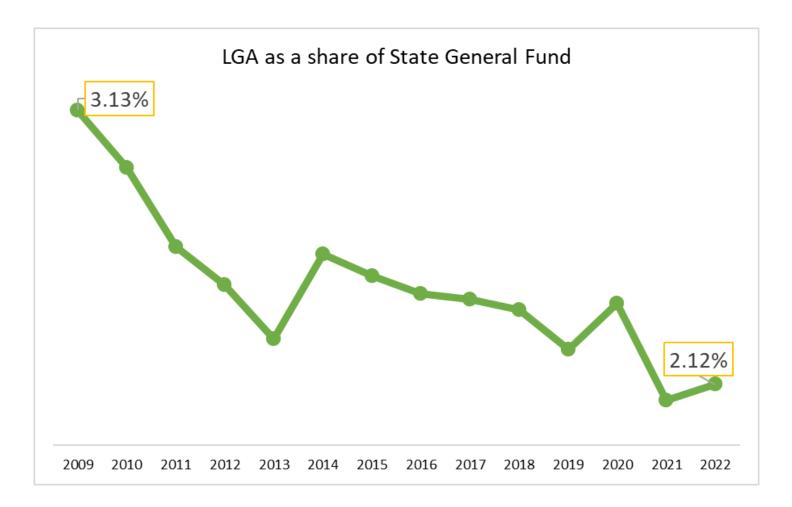
LGA levels the playing field between communities



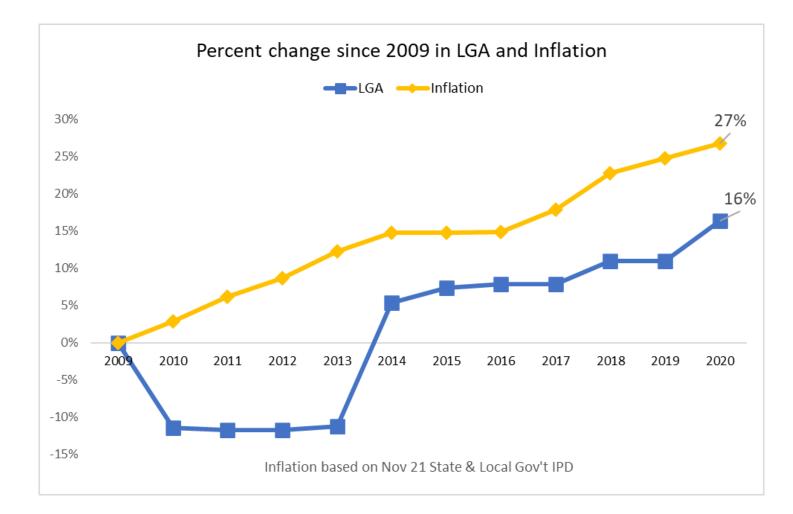
Geographic Distribution of LGA



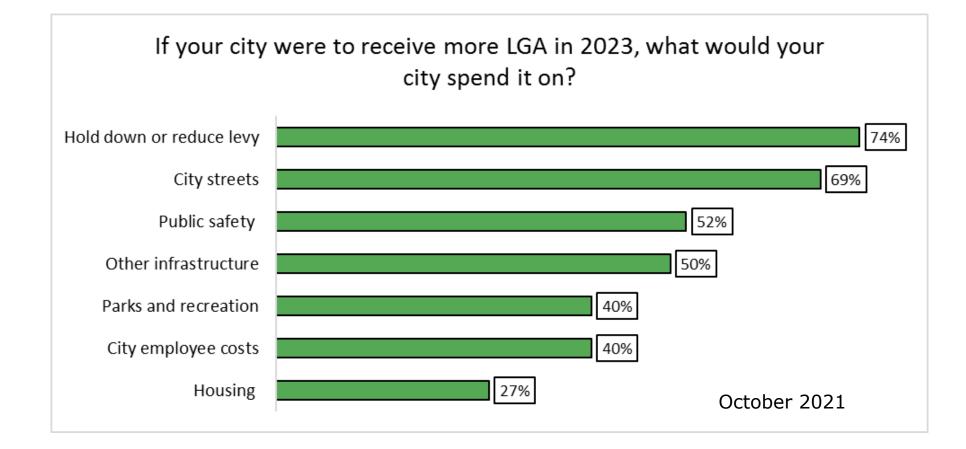
Geographic distribution of tax base



LGA as share of the state general fund



LGA growth vs. inflation



CGMC member survey

Quotes from Greater MN City Leaders

•"Every dollar of LGA decreases a dollar of tax levy." – Kelcey Klemm, City Administrator, Detroit Lakes

•"The city is aging greatly (built in 1950s), and we do not have the funds to make improvements." - Becky Lammi, City Administrator, Hoyt Lakes

•During the years LGA took a hit (in the late 2000s), the city fell behind on maintenance of its current infrastructure. Investments need to be made and we need to get to a point of planned maintenance rather than reactive maintenance (i.e. dealing with issues in crisis mode)." – Rhonda Moen, Finance Director, Owatonna



Concluding Thoughts...

CGMC supports a formula that evaluates a city's need and that city's ability to meet that need

CGMC supports the idea of LGA as a general purpose aid

CGMC opposes the use of LGA to enforce policy preferences of the legislature