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CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Legislative Update - Policy Committee

April 15, 2026

State Legislature Update

2026 Session



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Legislative Landscape

- First and second deadline passed, third deadline is this Friday April 17th.
- Seeing omnibus bills coming together
- Roughly one month or five weeks left;
- Legislature will end on May 18th, Monday

- Budget Forecast
- Legislative majorities-Tied and Tight
- Other big issues
 - Hennepin County Sales Tax for HCMC
 - County modernization computer programming
 - Governor's Supplemental Budget
 - Revenue raisers – sports betting, changes to sales tax?



Saint Paul Bills

- ½ Cent Sales Tax Extension STARR / RiverCentre HF 4248(Hollins) - SF 2657 (Pappas)
- Appropriation Bonds for RiverCentre Complex HF XXXX (Perez-Vega) - SF 3113 (Oumou Verbeten)
- Como Zoo Big Cat Exhibit HF 1560 (Finke) - SF 1152 (Oumou Verbeten)
- West 7th Utilities HF 4864 (Perez – Vega) - SF 5089 (Pappas)
- Statewide lead pipes replacement bonding HF 3748 (Jordon) / SF 4122 (McEwen)
- Non-fatal shootings HF 2742 (Frasier) - SF 3347 (Clark)
- Common Cent Sales Tax Clarification – Pending drafting by Senate Council Research
- Como Zoo Geothermal, the Heights Geothermal
- Reimbursement to local agencies for costs related to protests at Capitol Complex

- Defense bills!



City Involvement

- Mayor testified Operation Metro Surge bills, economic development / city costs
- Mayor testified on speed cameras (HF XXXX) House Transportation
- CP Noecker & Mayor testified on local gun control bill;
- Letters of support - numerous
- Police Chief Axtel testified on non-fatal shootings
- Assistant Chief Ford testified on capitol security and city costs
- SPRWS GM Vaske testified on lead lines
- Other statewide or regional efforts
- Meeting with Republicans and Democrats on River Centre Complex, other priorities
- Other?
- Mayor in DC at key time in CDS/CPF process



Omnibus Bills – What we know - Miscellaneous

- Other issues – Hennepin County hospital
- Defense or "fix it issues".
- Check the platform for other big bonding or policy issues
- The other teams.
- Mississippi River Learning Center
- Metro Cities event and opening on the board.



Legislative Retirements & Legacy Opportunities

- 24 Retirements – Not running for other office
- 18 Individuals running for another office
- Key leaders for the Saint Paul and City Issues;
 - Senator Sandy Pappas – Saint Paul
 - Rep. Maria Isa Perez-Vega – Saint Paul
 - Rep. Kelly Moller, Sandra Feist – Ramsey County, Public Safety
 - Senator Rest-Tax Chair



Congresswoman McCollum's Federal FY 27 Community Project Funding (CPFs)

- Como Regional Park Geothermal - Phase 2;
- Mississippi River Pump Station;
- Public Safety Addressing System Modernization;
- Ballistic Equipment Replacement;
- Riverview Library Renovation;
- Riverview Corridor Sewer - Phase 3;
- Central Village Park Renovation; and
- Mount Airy Homes Energy Efficiency Upgrade.

Questions?



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