

September 30, 2016

**RE: WEEKLY UPDATE**

**I. Policy Issues: Legislation and Regulations**

- a. **A-4114 Passes Assembly**
- b. **Bills Would Preempt Municipal Regulations**
- c. **Bill Calls for For-Hire Vehicle License Plates to Aid in Protecting the Public's Safety**
- d. **Bill That Applies Local Bid Threshold to Other Procurement Laws Released From Committee**
- e. **DEP Issues Update to Stormwater Best Practices (BMP) Manual**
- f. **Reminder CY 2016/SFY 2017 "Best Practices" Checklist Issued**
- g. **Bureau of Municipal Information White Paper- Wireless Systems in the Right of Way:  
What You Need to Know**
- h. **Advocacy Tools for Local Officials**

**II. 101st Annual Conference Reminders**

**III. Also of Interest**

Dear Mayor:

**I. Policy Issues: Legislation and Regulations**

**a. A-4114 Passes Assembly**

On Thursday, the New Jersey General Assembly approved [A-4114](#), which the League **supports**. This bill will require the State Department of Transportation to compensate local governments for delay damages on transportation projects that result from Executive Order 210. Further the bill permits local governments to use their own funds to continue or complete a project that was halted as a result of the Executive Order, and prohibits the DOT or any Executive Branch agency from withholding, revoking or canceling funds if the local government chose to proceed. We commend Assemblywoman Muoio for advancing this initiative. This bill now heads to the Senate for further consideration.

**Contacts:** Jon Moran, Sr. Legislative Analyst, [jmoran@njslom.org](mailto:jmoran@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x121 and Mike Cerra, Assistant Executive Director, [mcerra@njslom.org](mailto:mcerra@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x120.

**b. Bills Would Preempt Municipal Regulations**

The League of Municipalities opposes [S-2179](#) and [A-3695](#), as currently drafted. These bills would unnecessarily exempt ride for hire services from local regulation.

These proposals would create a new class of taxis, exempt from local oversight. Instead, the legislation establishes State-level safety and insurance requirements for transportation network companies that conduct business in this State. According to the bill, a transportation network company (Uber or Lyft, for example) is an individual or entity that uses a digital network or software application to connect a passenger to a transportation network company driver for the purpose of providing transportation to the passenger. Provisions in both bills exempt these entities and individuals from any local regulation.

Since 1917, in order to protect prospective passengers and the general public, and to preserve order, municipalities have been empowered by statute to license and regulate ride-for-hire businesses. The manner in which the service is dispatched and provided does not materially alter the responsibilities that local governments will bear. Nor will the manner of dispatch obviate the concerns of local elected officials in ensuring the public's legitimate interests in public safety. Further, enactment of this bill could motivate traditional taxi and limousine businesses to avoid local over-sight, by a change to their business models. That, in turn, could make it more difficult for older residents and for the economically disadvantaged to access transportation alternatives.

On that basis, absent deletion of the preemption provisions, the League of Municipalities cannot support this legislation. **Please contact your State Legislators and communicate your concerns with S-2179 and A-3695, as currently drafted.**

**Contact:** Jon Moran, Sr. Legislative Analyst, [jmoran@njslom.org](mailto:jmoran@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x121.

### **c. Bill Calls for For-Hire Vehicle License Plates to Aid in Protecting the Public's Safety**

The League supports **S-2415**, which creates a For-Hire Vehicle License Plate Task Force to design a unique color for license plates for display on certain for-hire vehicles. It, further, requires the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) to issue those plates and to establish a public awareness campaign and create and maintain a for-hire personal motor vehicle registry.

Under the bill, "for-hire vehicle" includes a taxi, limousine, and personal motor vehicle used to provide passenger transportation for which a fee is paid and is prearranged through a digital network. The task force is required to submit a report, within six months after its organizational meeting, to the Governor and the Legislature concerning its findings and recommendations for the design and unique color of license plates to be issued for display on for-hire vehicles. The MVC, after appropriate action by State elected officials, would issue special license plates to the owners of for-hire vehicles. The MVC would, then, establish a public awareness campaign to inform the public about the uniquely colored license plates and to post signs with this information at each airport, motorbus, rail, light rail, and ferry terminal and station.

The bill would help the public and the police to identify all vehicles that are authorized to provide ride-for-hire services. It would also help local police better enforce safety requirements.

**Contact:** Jon Moran, Sr. Legislative Analyst, [jmoran@njslom.org](mailto:jmoran@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x121.

#### **d. Bill That Applies Local Bid Threshold to Other Procurement Laws Released From Committee**

On Monday, the Senate Budget Committee released [S-728](#), which would apply the local public contract bid threshold amounts to local pay to play and prevailing wage laws. The League of Municipalities **strongly supports** S-728 as it would change the threshold for municipal Pay-to-Play from \$17,500 to the local bid threshold. Further, the Prevailing Wage threshold would rise from \$15,444 to the local bid threshold for municipalities. For boards of education and counties, the thresholds would be raised from \$2,000 to the local bid threshold. Please note that the local bid threshold is up to \$40,000 if the municipality has a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) and without a QPA it is \$17,500. The bill now awaits consideration by the full Senate. **Please contact your Senator and urge them to vote YES** on this common-sense bill that links the procurement thresholds while keeping the intent of each law intact. For more information please see our [June 10 letter](#).

**Contact:** Lori Buckelew, Sr. Legislative Analyst, [lbuckelew@njslom.org](mailto:lbuckelew@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x112.

#### **e. DEP Issues Update to Stormwater Best Practices (BMP) Manual**

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has recently posted an update to Chapter 1 of the New Jersey Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual. This update can be reached through NJDEP's [Stormwater Index](#). This web site guides stormwater management professionals, permittees and the general public to NJDEP's stormwater related technical information, guidance materials, educational resources, forms, and applications. The BMP Manual link is found at the top left-hand corner of the [Stormwater Index](#). As with the revised chapters posted in 2014 and earlier in 2016, this revised chapter incorporates the new format along with new graphics and updated text. Feel free to direct any questions related the updates to the BMP Manual to [DWQ-BNPC-StormwaterManagement@dep.nj.gov](mailto:DWQ-BNPC-StormwaterManagement@dep.nj.gov). **Contact:** Ed Purcell Esq., League Staff Counsel, [epurcell@njslom.org](mailto:epurcell@njslom.org), 609- 695-3481 x137.

#### **f. Reminder CY 2016/SFY 2017 “Best Practices” Checklist Issued**

Last week, the Division of Local Government Services issued the CY 2016/SFY 2017 Best Practices Checklist. [Local Finance Notice 2016-13](#) provides guidance on this year's process. Calendar Year municipalities must submit their Best Practices checklist by Friday, October 21, 2016. State Fiscal Year municipalities will have until Friday, April 7, 2017. For more on this, please click here for the League's Town Crier blog posting of [September 22](#).

**Contacts:** Jon Moran, Sr. Legislative Analyst at 609-695-3481 x121, [jmoran@njslom.org](mailto:jmoran@njslom.org); and Lori Buckelew, Sr. Legislative Analyst at 609-695-3481 x112, [lbuckelew@njslom.org](mailto:lbuckelew@njslom.org)

### **g. Bureau of Municipal Information White Paper- Wireless Systems in the Right of Way: What You Need to Know**

Municipalities are being approached by new entities that wish to use the rights of way to install new wireless telecommunications facilities. The League's Bureau of Municipal Information has published a white paper to help municipalities understand access to rights of way and impacts of changing wireless technology, **Wireless Systems in the Right of Way: What You Need to Know**. A copy of this white paper can be found [here](#). A list of other Bureau of Municipal Information white papers is available through this [link](#).

**Contact:** Ed Purcell Esq., League Staff Counsel, [epurcell@njslom.org](mailto:epurcell@njslom.org), 609- 695-3481 x137.

### **h. Advocacy Tools for Local Officials**

[As Mentioned in our August 19 Friday recap letter](#) the League is rolling out some new tools and initiatives for our advocacy efforts. Please click here for more on our VoterVoice service.

**We would suggest registering with that service to assist the League in future legislative efforts.**

And please click here to read the League's new legislative blog, "The Town Crier."

**Contact:** Mike Cerra, Assistant Executive Director, [mcerra@njslom.org](mailto:mcerra@njslom.org), 609-695-3481 x120.

## **II. 101st Annual Conference Reminders**

### **a. Pre-Registration for 101st NJLM Conference Ends October 1**

Pre-registration for the NJLM Conference opened on Monday, August 1, by paper and online formats. The form and online registration links are located on our website, [www.njslom.org](http://www.njslom.org).

Click on the tab "Conference," select "Conference 2016" and click on the "Register Now" button to access your municipal pre-registration form or non-municipal registration form.

**REMINDER: Pre-registration ends October 1, 2016. After October 1, 2016, all new registrations must be completed onsite in Atlantic City.**

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Johniffer Harris, Assistant Financial Administrator, [jharris@njslom.org](mailto:jharris@njslom.org), 609-6953481 x119.

### **b. Conference Hotel Reservation Deadline October 7**

Reserve now on line at <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/336/2016-Conference>

**c. Order Your Meal Function Tickets Now**

For order forms for all League Meal functions go to: <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/336/2016-Conference>.

**d. Women in Municipal Government Breakfast “Connecting to Health in All Your Polices”**

Presentation of the Thirteenth Annual Women in Government Award Honorees: Barbara George Johnson, Executive Director of John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy; Thomas Edison State University and The Mayors Wellness Campaign- **Guest Speaker:** Barbara George Johnson.

**e. NJLM 2016 Conference CEU List Updated**

The Annual Conference CEU list has been updated. You can view this list by clicking the following link: <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/339/Continuing-Education-Unit-CEU-Tracking-S> . The list is not yet final so continue to check the page for updates. And download the conference mobile app October 5 to receive update notices <http://www.njslom.org/2016conf/app-download.html>

**Contact:** Danielle Holland, Seminar Manager, [dholland@njslom.org](mailto:dholland@njslom.org), or 609-695-3481 x118.

**f. Mayors Hall of Fame Reminder**

Once again, the New Jersey State League of Municipalities Executive Board wants to pay tribute to mayors who have served at least 10 years as mayor. During the Mayors Box Luncheon at the Annual League Conference in November we will induct nominees to the Mayors Hall of Fame. See details on the nomination process here <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/246/Mayors-Elected-Officials-Hall-of-Fame>.

**g. Innovation in Government Award Nominations has Been Extended**

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the New Jersey League of Municipalities will again acknowledge and promote Innovation in Governance through our annual recognition program. It gives you the chance to congratulate your public professionals and employees for a job well done. And it can help to demonstrate to your constituents the appreciation that other local officials, throughout New Jersey, have for your creativity and leadership. See how to nominate your program here; and, **please note that the deadline has been extended to October 7, 2016.**

You can find more information on this program by visiting <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/249/Annual-Innovation-in-Governance-Awards>, or apply directly by [clicking here](#).

**Contact:** Ciara Bradley, Legislative Administrator, [cbradley@njslom.org](mailto:cbradley@njslom.org) , 609-695-3481, x128.

### **h. Conference App—Download Day is October 5**

**Starting October 5th** you can download the new official conference app. Access a fully searchable session schedule, interactive map of the exhibit floor, a thorough listing of exhibitors, and up-to-date event information. Don't miss important sessions, speakers or exhibits – create a personalized schedule before you arrive at the Convention Center to maximize your experience! Download day is October 5 at [www.njslom.org/2016conf/app](http://www.njslom.org/2016conf/app).

### **III. Also of Interest**

#### **a. NJ Spotlight on Cities**

What is the future of New Jersey cities? What policy matters should our leaders address? What does a Garden State urban agenda look like?

Together with some of the state's biggest influencers and advocates, the state's premier public policy news source, NJSpotlight, will tackle these questions at the second annual [NJ Spotlight On Cities](#).

They start with a conversation on urban agendas of the past and future, and then explore major issues like healthcare, environmental justice, affordable housing, gentrification, corporate citizenship, community schools, entrepreneurship, arts education, designing public spaces and more. [You can see the roster of confirmed speakers](#) here [www.njspotlightoncities.com](http://www.njspotlightoncities.com).

Discounts are available for government and non-profit employees, educators, students, and community activists. Get your tickets today at [www.njspotlightoncities.com](http://www.njspotlightoncities.com)

**Contact:** Michael J. Darcy, CAE, Executive Director, [mdarcy@njslom.org](mailto:mdarcy@njslom.org), 609-695-3481, x116.

#### **b. Please Help NJ Homeland Security and Local Law Enforcement in Planning and Preparation for Events**

New Jersey's Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP) want all local officials to be aware of an important initiative. You may have seen this covered on various news outlets earlier this week:

[http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2016/09/nj\\_homeland\\_security\\_office\\_tell\\_us\\_about\\_large\\_ev.html](http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2016/09/nj_homeland_security_office_tell_us_about_large_ev.html)

NJOHSP needs your assistance to compile an accurate and complete directory of special events—to include any event that attracts large numbers of participants and spectators, such as concerts, marathons, fireworks displays, community celebrations, visits by VIPs, sporting events,

holiday gatherings, etc. This directory will be distributed to all law enforcement agencies to provide situational awareness and to assist in local planning requirements.

If you know of events in your area, please complete the special events submission form, which can be found here: <http://www.njhomelandsecurity.gov/specialevents>

Lastly, NJOHSP has also been holding a series of free "[Hometown Security](#)" seminars in towns around the state to brief local officials on public safety protocol. The next event is planned for Sept. 29 in Camden. To request a session in your community, please contact: [preparedness@njohsp.gov](mailto:preparedness@njohsp.gov).

**Contact:** Michael J. Darcy, CAE, Executive Director, [mdarcy@njslom.org](mailto:mdarcy@njslom.org), 609-695-3481, x116.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Darcy, CAE  
Executive Director