

CITY OF MISSOULA LOBBYIST REPORT

For the week of January 26 – January 30, 2015

Issues Update

- 1) Local Option Authority - Continued meetings with League representatives, legislators and Missoula delegation to discuss the status of the local option authority bill.

Bill Review Update

- 1) 5 House Bills identified with review requests to City staff
- 2) 4 Senate Bills identified with review requests to City staff

Bill Action Update

- 1) **HB182:** Require that zoning be adopted before use of land can be regulated
 - a. City continued to OPPOSE. Worked with League, MACO and MT Builders, bill failed on Third Reading (twice)
- 2) **HB192 and SB182:** Net metering
 - a. City continues to monitor and SUPPORT HB192, awaiting hearing date. Monitored SB182, bill tabled in committee
- 3) **HB213:** Revise business equipment tax laws
 - a. City continues to OPPOSE bill without reimbursement mechanism. McDonald lobbying with Glenn Oppel from Montana Chamber in opposition. Received confirmation of Chamber and sponsors intent to include a reimbursement mechanism. The League took lead for City's in opposing the bill at committee. An amendment to include a reimbursement is expected.
- 4) **HB216:** Expand use of treasure state endowment funds
 - a. Continued to monitor action
- 5) **HB220:** Revise recall provision laws for local and district elected officials
 - a. Monitored and per city instruction did not voice opposition. Will work with allies to oppose if bill moves out of committee.
- 6) **HB222:** Revise laws related to oversize loads
 - a. City continued to OPPOSE. McDonald met repeatedly with MT Contractors in hopes of stalling action on the wide load bill. Despite assurances the committee would allow us time to develop an agreement, the House FRET committee voted the bill out of committee and it passed the House (78-28).
- 7) **HB275:** Revise fuel tax revenue to fund maintenance and public transportation
 - a. Testified in SUPPORT. Bill will increase state gas tax and help fund street maintenance.
- 8) **HB280:** Generally revise laws on bicycles
 - a. Testified in SUPPORT. Bill provides clarification of language and definitions surrounding bicycle use. Changes will increase ability to support bike safety and public education.
- 9) **HB333:** Generally revise laws related to publicly operated cameras
 - a. City continues to OPPOSE. Concerns voiced by police regarding bill language, definition of use; and recording limitations. Formulating comments and position for testimony.