



March 28, 2016

Transportation Issues in Play

With passage of the FY 2017 budget imminent, many issues before the Maryland General Assembly are still in flux. The Governor originally included \$20.3 million in the FY 2017 budget for municipal transportation needs over and above the base formula amount of \$7.4 million. Due to the fact that several bills have subsequently passed this session allocating funding to large transportation projects around the State, there seems to be a move in the Senate to reduce the local government transportation grants to accommodate these special projects. If the grants are successfully reduced in the FY 2017 budget, municipalities would revert to the amount in the current fiscal year budget (an approximate \$1.3 million reduction), which MML is strongly opposing.

MML Priority Legislation Update

MML's highway user revenue priority legislation (SB 585/HB 723) has been changed radically in the Senate. SB 585 was amended such that only \$25 million of funding remains in the FY '18 budget year with all other funding removed from the legislation. The companion House bill (HB 723) remains in the House Environment & Transportation Committee with no movement likely. MML is working closely with the House to attempt to amend a portion of transportation funding back into the bill. The House hearing on SB 585 is scheduled for March 31, after which time there may be some movement on the legislation. Legislation to protect and restore Program Open Space monies has passed the House (HB 462) and is under consideration in the Senate at this time.

Two Weeks to Go...

Other issues still in play include legislation to amend the open meetings act training requirements (HB 823), make changes to election procedures for municipalities (HB 852), establish information distribution policies for jurisdictions using body-worn cameras (HB 947), eliminate the Local Government Tort Claims Act notice provision (SB 356), and lengthen the repayment schedule for municipalities that incurred and likely will still incur income tax overpayments (SB 766).

VIDEO: Weekly Legislative Recap

Check out this week's installment of [MML's Legislative Update](#) to hear a brief recap of what is going on in Annapolis as it relates to our municipalities. You can read a more in-depth analysis in the articles below. And as always, visit our [Bill Position Summary page](#) to find out where MML stands on all relevant legislation.

Banner City Check-In

With only two months left until the Banner City/Town deadline, now's the perfect time to go through the Banner City/Town Form and check the status of each activity. The Banner City/Town designation, sponsored by Musco Sports Lighting, is MML's highest member achievement award.

Failure to conduct a Municipal Government Works (MGW) Month activity in November puts you out of contention. However, contact Paula Chase Hyman, MML Director, Member Relations at 410-268-5514 to discuss what counts as an MGW activity. Some cities/towns do special events in November that may count.

Finished already? Send your completed form and documentation to paulah@mdmunicipal.org. If not, plan to scan or snail mail a copy **no later than May 27**.

BCT Contenders (**bold** municipalities have sent in completed form)

Aberdeen, Annapolis, Baltimore, Barclay, Barton, Berlin, Berwyn Heights, Betterton, Boonsboro, Bowie, Brentwood, Brookville, Brunswick, Burkittsville, Cambridge, Capitol Heights, Cecilton, Centreville, Chesapeake Beach, Chesapeake City, **College Park**, Colmar Manor, Cottage City, Delmar, Denton, District Heights, Easton, Edmonston, Elkton, Emmitsburg, Federalsburg, Frederick, Friendsville, Fruitland, Gaithersburg, Galena, Glenarden, **Greenbelt**, Greensboro, Hagerstown, **Hampstead**, Havre de Grace, Hebron, Hyattsville, Indian Head, Kensington, Landover Hills, La Plata, Laurel, Laytonsville, Leonardtown, Manchester, Middletown, Morningside, Mount Airy, Mount Rainier, **New Carrollton**, New Market, New Windsor, North Beach, Oakland, Oxford, Perryville, Pocomoke City, Poolesville, Princess Anne, Queenstown, Ridgely, Riverdale Park, Rockville, Salisbury, Seat Pleasant, Somerset, Sykesville, Takoma Park, Taneytown, Thurmont, **Trappe**, Union Bridge, University Park, Upper Marlboro, Walkersville, Westminster, Williamsport (as of March 22, 2016)

Environmental Finance Center Launches Municipal Online Stormwater Training (MOST) Center

Earlier this month, the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at the University of Maryland, in partnership with the Low Impact Development Center, Inc., launched the Municipal Online Stormwater Training (MOST) Center. MOST is a platform designed to enhance the stormwater education and training experience by providing innovative, easily accessible, online training and resources that engage and empower a variety of stakeholders to develop effective and affordable stormwater management programs.

With open enrollment and **free content** delivered in short, self-paced modules, the MOST Center has been created to bridge the gap in technical and financial stormwater management resources available to communities in the Chesapeake Bay region and beyond. MOST Center courses will draw upon the expertise of online learning specialists and subject matter experts to deliver content that is engaging, user-friendly and quality assured. Two introductory courses (Introduction to Local Government Stormwater Financing and The Building Blocks of an Effective Stormwater Management Program) are currently featured, and additional courses will be added each year.

The MOST Center is made possible by a five-year Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction (INSR) grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). Potential partners interested in sharing their stormwater

expertise and delivering training content in this new, dynamic platform should contact mostcenter@umd.edu for more information.

For more information about the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland, please visit www.efc.umd.edu. To learn more about MOST, please visit <https://mostcenter.org>.

MML Convention Registration

Register [online](#) by April 15 to take advantage of the lowest fees for MML's convention, which will be held June 26 - 29, 2016 at the Convention Center in Ocean City. [Information](#) about MML's convention is on MML's website and also in the March issue of *Municipal Maryland*.

Make Your MML Convention Hotel Reservations Now!

Reservations at Ocean City hotels in conjunction with the Maryland Municipal League convention are ahead of the past few years. The Hampton Inn is already sold out for most nights during MML's convention. We encourage you to make your reservations now because all indications are for a strong summer season at Ocean City hotels. MML arranged for discounted room rates at nine Ocean City [hotels](#). Because hotels routinely receive cancellations, we recommend that you call periodically and inquire about room availability if your preferred choice is not available when you first try to make a reservation.

Please do not book rooms for the same person at multiple hotels, or reserve more rooms than you actually need. Many MML convention hotels report receiving a large number of cancellations in the two weeks preceding MML's convention because attendees overbook rooms or make multiple reservations. Because of this, some MML convention attendees are not able to stay at their preferred convention hotel. We appreciate everyone's cooperation to make the hotel reservation process fair to all attendees.

MML 2016-17 Board Nominations

Nomination materials for the MML 2016-2017 Board of Directors were e-mailed to chief municipal elected officials and to MML chapter presidents and secretaries in mid-March. The following nomination for MML's 2016-2017 Board of Directors has been received at the League office:

President-Elect

Lawrence "Jake" Romanell, Vice President of Council, New Market

Nomination materials can be found [here](#). Contact Jim Peck at jimp@mdmunicipal.org with any questions.

Certified Stormwater Inspector Training

The National Stormwater Center is offering Certified Stormwater Inspector training May 24-25, 2016 in Annapolis, Maryland. Designed specifically for municipal personnel, this course offers training and certification demonstrating inspector qualification.

Inspectors who take this course will learn:

- how to inspect construction, commercial and industrial, and municipal activities

- what to inspect
- the limits of their authority
- appropriate demeanor and discretion

Inspectors will also learn about the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, the six Minimum Control Measures, and how to better implement and support their MS4 stormwater program.

Graduates of the Certified Stormwater Inspector course receive certification for 5 years and continuing education units, as well as ongoing, unlimited support of the National Stormwater Center. All instructors have stormwater enforcement experience at the Federal or State level.

You will find the course announcement, including course details and registration information [here](#). You may also email info@npdes.com or visit our website at www.npdes.com.

Be Part of Municipal Main Street
Showcase your Municipality during the MML Convention
[Details Here](#)

Classifieds

Classified advertisements from Maryland cities, towns, counties and other government agencies will be published in MML's *e-Bulletin* at no charge. If you would like to advertise an **employment opportunity, Request for Proposals, or a piece of equipment for sale** within the State of Maryland, please e-mail the ad copy, in a text only word doc, 200 words or less to [classified](#). Ads will appear for a 90-day period and can be resubmitted for posting if needed.

[Legislative Status Link](#)

[Classified Section Link](#)

[Important Dates / Deadlines](#)

Maryland Municipal League • 1212 West Street • Annapolis, MD 21401
410/268-5514 • 800/492-7121

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