



City of Hastings 2026 Legislative Priorities

Clean & Safe Drinking Water - City Council's No. 1 Priority and Community Concern

- State Bonding Request – PFAS and Nitrates Project
 - Eastern WTP: \$18.3M - #1 on State PPL; Western WTP: \$20.7M – tied at #17 on State PPL
- Other State Funding Support Requested:
 - Additional funding for PFAS; Raising Emerging Contaminants Grant cap; State fronting money for PFAS cleanup
- Federal Funding Support:
 - Request Congressionally Directed Spending - \$1.1M for western WTP
 - Oppose cuts to DWSRF (90% reduction proposed in EPA budget)

Crypto Currency Kiosk Fraud

- Hastings had \$68K in crypto-kiosk fraud reported 11/2023 to 4/2025
- Support greater fraud prevention by requiring state licensure, transaction limits, receipts, fee disclosures, refunds for reported fraud
- Support greater restrictions and penalties on spoof phone calls

Cannabis

- Support ongoing evaluation of costs associated with legalization of adult-use cannabis
- Support reinstatement of revenue sharing of state cannabis tax
- Oppose any proposals to diminish local control

Local Option Sales and Use Tax

- Hastings has potential projects for using local sales tax: Fire Station and Regional Parks
- Support the following streamlining processes:
 - Not require separate state legislative approval
 - Allow additional tax collection or extended duration to cover unanticipated cost increases or revenue shortfalls
 - Allow multiple projects in single ballot question
 - Oppose requiring neighboring jurisdictions to approve local sales tax; and oppose tax sharing with neighboring jurisdictions

Community Television

- Hastings Community Television relies on cable franchise fees to support PEG programming – including City and School Board meetings; public service announcements; and community events
- Industrywide, customers are switching to streaming, which reduces franchise fees
- Support state franchise fee on broadband and/or local authority for franchise fee on broadband
- Support direct state appropriation to support community television

Vets Park

- Support lease extension beyond October 2031

Affordable Housing

- Support LAHA funds for administrative expenses.
- Support local engagement and decision-making:
 - Oppose state preemption of city zoning and land use authority
 - Support local engagement and input on comprehensive planning and development
 - Consider consequences of housing density on existing infrastructure

Questions?

Contact City Administrator Dan Wietecha at dwietecha@hastingsmn.gov or call 651-480-2350. Thank you for your consideration of these priorities.
www.hastingsmn.gov

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