



THE MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
The Association of Cities and Towns

PRESS RELEASE

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Maryland Municipal League Approves 2026 Legislative Priority to Modernize Municipal Revenue Structures

(September 16, 2025) Annapolis, Md. – The [Maryland Municipal League](https://mdmunicipal.org) (MML) Board of Directors, representing 161 local governments in Maryland, has unanimously approved the League's legislative priority for the upcoming 2026 Maryland legislative session. In a move that signals a concentrated effort to address a systemic issue for local governments, MML will focus on a single legislative priority for the first time in recent history: Modernizing Municipal Revenue Structures.

This decision underscores the monumental importance the League places on providing its members with the financial tools necessary to serve their communities effectively and builds on the momentum of MML's legislative efforts over the past two years, which have sought to reduce the heavy reliance of local governments on property taxes as their primary source of revenue.

"Focusing on one priority is a deliberate choice," said MML President and Mayor of Pocomoke City, Todd Nock. "We are facing our own fiscal challenges, compounded by federal decisions and uncertainty. As Maryland works through its budget hurdles, local governments cannot be left behind; we must have a seat at the table."

Municipal governments are on the front lines, providing essential services like clean drinking water, road maintenance, and outdoor recreation to two million Marylanders daily. Yet, their capacity to fund these services is critically constrained. The current reliance on property taxes as the primary funding source is unsustainable; it not only threatens housing affordability but also fails to account for the financial impact of visitors and tourists who use local services without contributing equitably.

"It has been nearly 60 years since municipalities had their last meaningful revenue structure adjustment," said MML Chief Executive Officer Theresa Kuhns. "Since that time, the expectations and mandates placed on local government has changed dramatically, while our revenue options have not. This will ensure the continuation of essential services from public safety and trash collection to protecting our critical coastal shorelines and waterways, and cement municipalities as a partner in providing solutions that will house and serve more Marylanders."

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About The Maryland Municipal League:

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) was founded in 1936 and serves as the collective voice of 160 municipal governments and the 2 million Marylanders it represents. A voluntary, non-profit, nonpartisan association controlled and maintained by city and town governments, MML works to strengthen and support municipal government through advocacy and the development of effective leadership. Through its membership in the National League of Cities MML offers legislative representation in Washington, urban research programs, and a national municipal government information exchange. MML is the only statewide organization in Maryland composed solely of municipal officials and devoted to the promotion of all branches of municipal administration.