



# 2014 Legislative Recap

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May 19, 2014

# 2014 Legislative Goals

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- Develop strong working relationships with Commerce City delegation
- Articulate policy positions adopted by City Council
- Advocate support/opposition to legislation that affected Commerce City
- Strategic engagement year-round, not just during session

# Council Legislative Committee

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- Role: Anticipate and proactively address federal, state and regional legislation/policies to protect the city's home rule charter
- Responsibilities:
  - Help draft state and federal policy statements
  - A member shall also be city representative on CML policy committee
  - Review pending legislation, including pros/cons
  - Confirm city positions against policy statements
  - Be available to testify to advance city positions

# Council Legislative Committee

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- Staff reviewed and identified legislation to monitor consistent with approved policy statement.
- Legislative subcommittee met weekly to review monitored legislation
  - Received tracking sheet with full legislative text and status
- Meetings reviewed pros, cons and staff recommended position
- Subcommittee discussion either confirms action based on policy statement or recommends full council action/discussion at regular meeting
- Approve testimony on behalf of city

# Legislative Program Updates

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- Held first legislative reception
- Created policy positions booklet to mirror federal advocacy booklet
- Created staff legislative subcommittee
- Coordinated/drafted testimony
- Weekly reporting
- Regular participant with Colorado Municipal League meetings
- Participated in Metro North Chamber of Commerce BGA committee
- Partnered with Broomfield and Parker to secure issue-specific lobbyist

# City's Policy Positions

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- Home Rule and Local Control
- State Mandates
- Sales and Use Tax
- Economic Development
- Education
- Urban Renewal
- Transportation
- Municipal Development and Land Use
- Public Safety

# 69th General Assembly

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- 120 days (Jan. 7 - May 7)
- Democrats control Governor's Office, House (+6) and Senate (+1)
- 621 bills introduced
- 92 bills tracked by the city
  - Actively supported two bills
  - Actively opposed four bills



# Legislative Results

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- Active Support
  - HB 1164, Elections Law Changes: passed
  - SB 220, Owner Occupied Construction Defects: passed committee, procedurally failed



# Legislative Results

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- Active Opposition
  - SB 181, Red Light Cameras: postponed indefinitely
  - SB 017, State Pre-emption of Local Development: modified to a interim study committee (dropped opposition)
  - HB 1061, eliminating jail to pay fines : modified to address most of administrative issues (dropped opposition)
  - HB 1375, urban renewal: amended to extend effective date, clarifying amendments on applicability. Awaiting governor signature

# Legislative Results

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- Economic Development
  - Tax credits
- Municipal Land Use & Development
  - Affordable housing
  - Water stud
- Sales & Use Tax
  - Municipal-led uniformity discussion
- State Mandates
  - Open records
- Public Safety
  - Passive surveillance
  - Felony DUI
- Transportation
  - HPTE Requirements
  - Safe Routes to Schools
  - Towing
- Education
  - Increased monies to K-12 and higher education

# Next Steps

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- Assessing opportunities/effects of signed legislation
- Engaging/tracking interim session task force activities
- Subcommittee study session
- Finalizing summer/fall calendar for legislative engagement



