Since 1936, MML has worked to strengthen and support municipal government through advocacy and the development of effective leadership. Major policies are determined by vote of the 157 member cities and towns and two special taxing districts at MML’s annual convention and implemented by the Board of Directors.

Through a united legislative voice, MML cities and towns benefit from research, member programs and activities impossible to receive individually.

Legislative Advocacy

- The MML membership once again selected the reinstatement of municipal Highway User Revenues (HURs) as a league priority. After a nine-year effort, legislation was passed during the 2018 legislative session to restore 85% of municipal HURs beginning in fiscal year 2020 through FY 2024.
- The League’s second priority was to introduce legislation to ensure that personal data provided by municipal residents to allow the receipt of emergency alerts and municipal newsletters and updates was protected under the Maryland Public Information Act. The legislation was passed and signed into law in April of 2018.
- MML’s third 2018 legislative priority was to protect municipal zoning to ensure that incorporated cities and towns maintain the right to approve, permit, and site small cell infrastructure in municipal rights-of-way. Legislation was introduced to preempt local zoning authority by a group of wireless carriers, but the legislation was defeated by MML and other stakeholders.
- League staff reviewed a total of 3,101 bills and the MML Legislative Committee actively supported, opposed, or supported with amendment a total of 52 bills, while monitoring several hundred other pieces of legislation. The 2018 General Assembly session was one of the most successful in recent history, largely due to the significant involvement of MML’s leadership and membership.

Member Programs
The League continued its dedication to offering resources designed to nurture effective and informed officials by creating a publication targeted to individuals newly interested in municipal office. Our, So You Want to be an Elected Municipal Official pamphlet outlines exactly what municipal governing entails. It's an ideal tool to provide to residents who file to run for municipal elected office. In partnership with the Maryland Municipal Clerks Association (MMCA), MML is working to ensure every city/town receives copies for their inventory. The publication is also available on the MML website under the Research tab.

Thanks to an active and engaged MML membership, Maryland was the 2017 State with the Most #CityHallSelfies. The #CityHallSelfie initiative, sponsored by Engaging Local Government Leaders (ELGL), was created to show pride in local government service and facilities. By joining forces with the City of Gaithersburg, MML galvanized the state for a day-long showcase of city facilities, locations, elected officials and staff. Maryland led the way in bringing our nation’s communities together to remind everyone what cities and towns are all about. Photos from the day can be viewed at: http://www.mdmunicipal.org/index.aspx?nid=626

MML received 3,118 essays from 114 schools for the 2018 “If I Were Mayor, I Would…” Essay Contest. A new record high! Through this program, MML and its members have educated over 40,000 students, about Maryland municipal government and its role in the community. This program helps municipalities to foster goodwill in their community. The following cities/towns were host to the district winner: Berlin, Queen Anne, Baltimore, La Plata, Gaithersburg, Frederick, Accident, Hagerstown, College Park, North East, Sykesville

The League recognizes member cities that are actively engaged in serving as ambassadors for municipal government with its Banner City/Town Program. Members who take part in MML’s training, regional networking opportunities and educating students and adults alike about how municipalities positively impact the quality of life are honored with the Banner City/Town designation. In 2017 59 municipalities earned the title: Bel Air, Berlin, Berwyn Heights, Boonsboro, Bowie, Brentwood, Brunswick, Burkittsville, Cambridge, Capitol Heights, Chesapeake Beach, College Park, Colmar Manor, Denton, Easton, Edmonston, Elkton, Emmitsburg, Federalsburg, Frederick, Friendsville, Fruitland, Gaithersburg, Galena, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hampstead, Havre de Grace, Hyattsville, Indian Head, Kensington, Landover Hills, La Plata, Laurel, Leonardtown, Middletown, New Carrollton, New Market, New Windsor, North Beach, North Brentwood, Pocomoke City, Princess Anne, Queenstown, Ridgely, Rockville, Salisbury, Seat Pleasant, Somerset, Sykesville, Takoma Park, Taneytown, Thurmont, Trappe, Union Bridge, University Park, Upper Marlboro, Westminster, Williamsport
Technical Assistance and Research

- In Fiscal Year 2017, MML answered 1,011 non-legislative and research inquiries from local officials. The most frequent topics researched were financial issues, administration, elections, personnel, code enforcement, open government, planning and zoning, public safety, and public works.

- A full slate of research products and services including: our most requested documents, municipal charters and links to key state websites are available by visiting mdmunicipal.org and clicking the Research tab.

Training & Education

- MML sponsors more than 30 workshops on municipal issues during its two annual training conferences. Municipal officials also have the opportunity during the summer conference to visit over 230 exhibitors to learn about a wide array of products and services and, also programs offered through state agencies.

- The Maryland Municipal League, along with the Maryland Association of Counties, and the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy administers the Academy of Excellence in Local Governance certificate training program. The Academy offers core sessions on Municipal Budgeting, Open Meetings, and other essential governing fundamentals as well as a variety of elective courses.

- The League continues to embrace new training approaches designed to enhance participant engagement and maximize learning for the state’s city and town officials. Conference sessions frequently incorporate small group dialogues and technologies like in-class polling to connect participants with new concepts. Thirty-minute SNAP sessions allow for a quick introduction to a narrowly-focused topic, and discussion forums grouped by population offer attendees structured time to network with colleagues.

MML Publications & Digital Tools

- Municipal Maryland magazine - Published 9 times per year featuring articles on timely topics to help cities/towns operate more efficiently and effectively.

- Maryland Municipal League brochure - This stepped-insert style brochure highlights Municipal 101 information for the newly elected official or individuals interested in how municipal government operates; and background on the League's components and services.

- Mdmunicipal.org - Offers 24-hour access to the most current League information, a section devoted to Information for New Officials and links to every MML program and service.

- MML Conference app - Engage with events, activities and people prior, during and after the summer conference.
MDMunicipal - Our official League app gives members access to the MML calendar, staff directory, League alerts and more. Both apps available via Apple or Google Play Store.

e-Bulletin - MML’s bi-weekly digital newsletter provides timely updates on state and federal programs, court decisions affecting municipalities and MML news.

Digital Directory of Maryland Municipal Officials - The free, annual listing of all MML member towns and cities available as a PDF on MML’s website. Includes spotlighted towns and links to businesses that provide services to municipalities.

MML Members Lounge - Password protected area includes contact information on fellow officials and members-only message boards. Visit: www.mdmunicipal.org/login

Insurance Benefits

The Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT), an MML created and sponsored local government insurance provider provided services to 143 municipalities in 2017-1018.

123 municipalities are taking advantage of reduced rates for workers comp and unemployment insurance through the Chesapeake Employers Insurance Company, an MML Premier Strategic Partner.

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