North Carolina League of Municipalities

Municipalities Meeting Covid 19 Crisis
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Municipalities: Covid 19 Crisis

Local Response/Critical Services Continuing

• Police/fire/emergency service
• Water/utility service
• Solid waste collection
• Homeless sheltering
• Development approvals and inspections—many departments are doing these functions remotely
• Street maintenance—clear for essential workers & businesses
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Small Businesses Lifeblood of Local Economies

- Restaurants, Hotels and Retailers Closed
- Laid Off Workers
- Economic Activity Depressed
- Small Business Loan Funds
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Revenue Stream Effects

Sales Taxes
• $1.2-1.3 billion annually
• Make up 24 percent general operation budgets (median city)
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Revenue Stream Effects

Occupancy Taxes
• $250-300 million annually
• Dedicated revenue to tourism industry promotions, events, facilities
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Revenue Stream Effects

Utilities

• No Non-Payment Disconnections
• Expected Industrial Use Decline (1/3 of water systems bill a majority to non-residential customers)
• Struggling Rural Utilities
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Revenue Stream Effects

Extension of Deadlines

• DMV Vehicle Registration Tied to Property Tax Payments

• Others?
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Municipal Budgets (Non-Utility)
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Maintaining Cash Flows Will Be Crucial!

- 22,000 Street Miles Maintained by Cities and Towns
- Local Government-Owned Water Systems Serve 89% of State’s Population
- Ten Largest Municipal Water Systems Serve 30% of the State’s Population
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Other Pressing Issues

Clarify Authority to Meet Remotely
  • Full Council, Other Board Meetings
  • Public Hearings
Other Pressing Issues

Broadband Access
• FIBER NC Act
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QUESTIONS?

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