



Association of Minnesota Counties

General Legislative Principles

- Preserve local control so that counties have the flexibility to address the most pressing needs of their communities.
- State budget solutions should avoid adding or shifting a disproportionate burden to counties through cost shifts, cost shares and unfunded mandates.
- Funding for county-administered services should be commensurate with the level of service or results deemed acceptable.

2017 Legislative Policy Positions Referring to Public Land Acquisition/Ownership

- In order to help maintain the tax base, AMC supports a policy that any acquisition or exchange of land by the state or federal government must gain approval of the county board. This includes lands acquired through purchase, environmental land trust, gifting or other means.
- AMC supports requiring federal and state agencies to formally notify and solicit county input prior to all proposed land acquisitions.
- AMC opposes efforts to alter or remove the local approval process for the establishment or expansion of wildlife management areas (WMAs).
- Private lands acquired outside of a city should not be in conflict with the county's comprehensive plan.
- Private land acquisitions must emphasize the greatest level of public value that can be obtained in order to achieve the maximum statewide public benefit.

Public Lands Management Work Group Recommendations for 2018 Legislative Platform

- AMC supports state and federal funding to effectively manage and maintain all state and federally owned lands.
- AMC supports the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Strategic Land Asset Management (SLAM) concept and the involvement of counties in the development of land management goals and strategies.
- AMC supports requiring that county boards be notified of, and allowed to comment on, applications for state-funded acquisition projects that are proposed in the county.
- AMC supports maximizing the greatest level of public value and benefit when private lands are acquired with state funds. These lands shall provide multiple uses and are best identified with local government participation throughout the acquisition process.
- AMC supports the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to re-establish the PILT Work Group from 2012 to fully examine the PILT system and consider alternatives.

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