

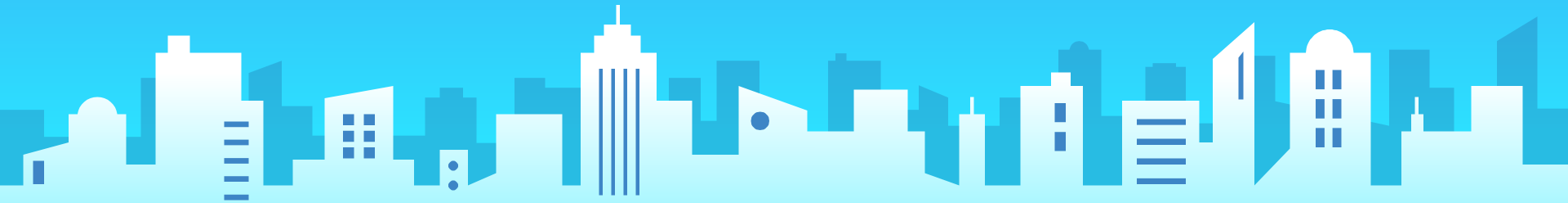
MMA LEGISLATIVE BREAKFASTS

Sept. 20
Becket
Wilbraham

FALL 2019

Sept. 27
Marlborough
Fitchburg

Oct. 4
Halifax
Lynnfield



MMA Legislative Division



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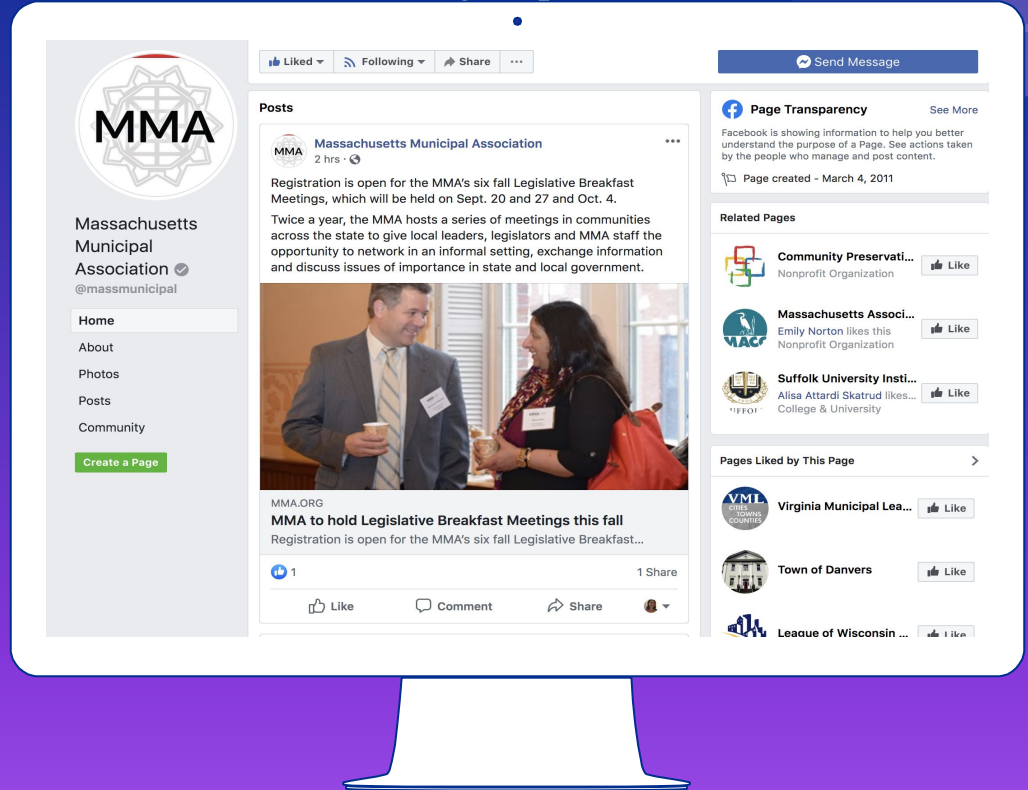


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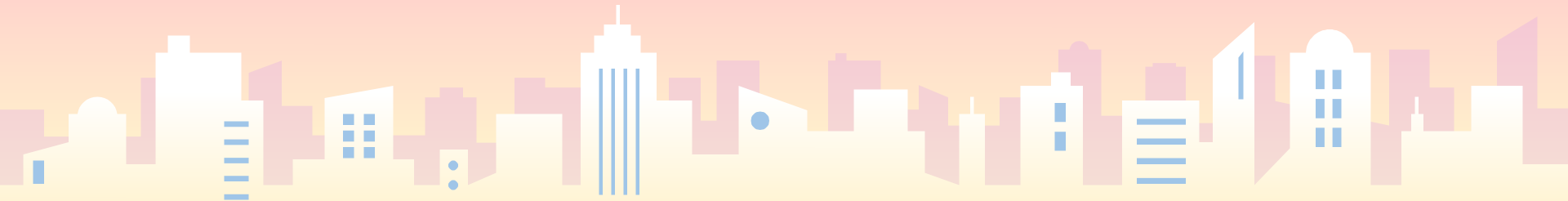
VALUES VISION SERVICE



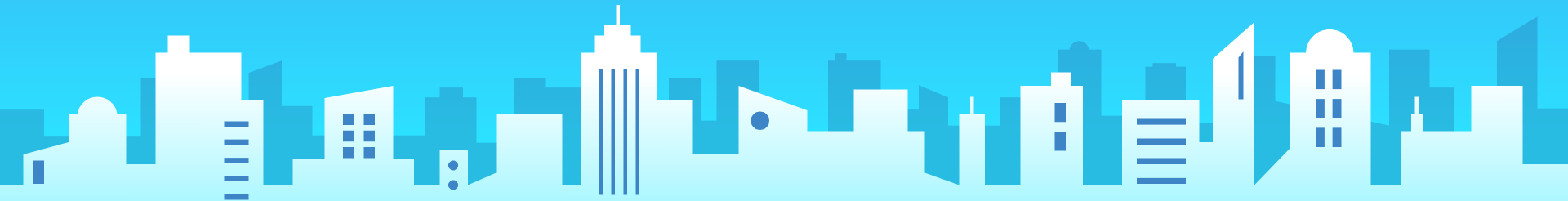
MMA's 41st Annual Meeting
and Trade Show | January 24 and 25, 2020
Boston

The Agenda

1. MMA Legislative Update
2. View from the State House -
comments from Legislators
3. View from City and Town Halls -
comments and questions from local
officials



MMA Legislative Update

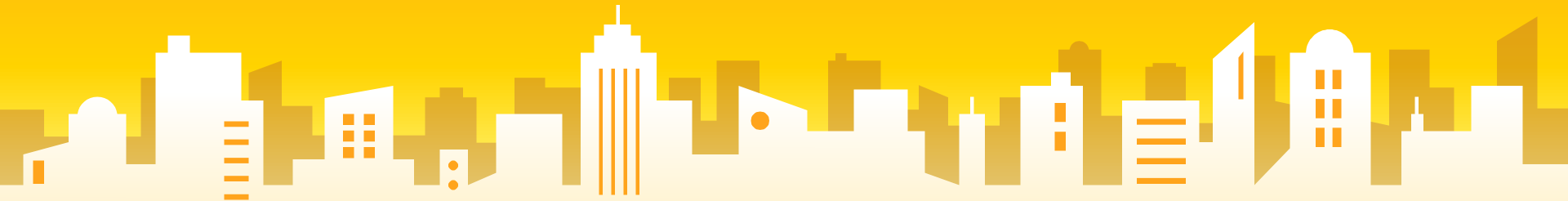


Fiscal Policy Committee

Budget and fiscal analysis, taxation, local aid, school finance

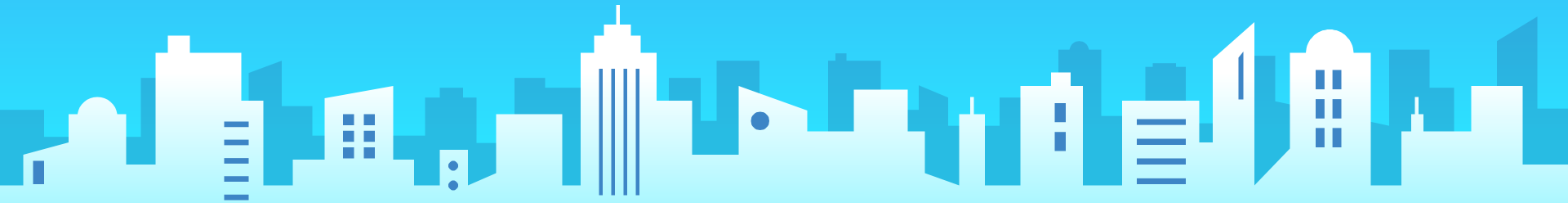


**Legislative Director -
John Robertson**



Recap

- First part of 2-year session ends Nov. 20
- Enacted FY20 budget
- Held hearings on thousands of bills
- Queued up major policy bills



Outlook

- **Transportation finance bill with funding for local roads**
- **Climate change bond legislation**
- **School finance bill**
- **Housing choices bill**
- **MMA's policy committees are working on another round of best practices and Annual Business Resolutions**

FY19 Closeout Budget (H.4067)

- Tax collections increased by 6.9% over FY18 and \$1.1 B over original FY19 forecast
- On Sept. 6 Gov. filed bill to close books on FY19, adding to the state's rainy day fund, cutting state taxes, and providing additional funding for a number of school aid and local capital projects

FY19 Closeout Budget (H.4067)

- **Closeout Budget bill includes:**
 - \$2 M for special ed circuit breaker
 - \$1.2 M for RSD student transportation
 - \$40 M Chapter 90 and \$10.5 M for Complete Streets and small bridges
 - \$28 M for PFAS remediation
 - \$35 M for Clean Water Trust
 - Up to \$20 M to supplement funding for State match to CPA program
 - Adds \$168 M to the Stabilization Fund

FY20 Budget Act

- **Unrestricted General Government Aid increased by \$29.7 M to \$1.1 B**
- **Chapter 70 education aid increased by \$269 M to \$5.2 B**
- **Fully funded the Special Education Circuit Breaker program at \$345 M, an increase of \$25.7 M**

FY20 Budget Act

- Charter School Impact Mitigation Payments increased by \$25 M to \$115 M
- Regional school district transportation reimbursements increased by \$7 M to \$75.9 M
- One-time funding for rural school aid at \$2.5 M

FY20 Budget Act

- **Payment in lieu of taxes on State-owned land increased by \$1.5 M to \$30 M**
- **Increased recording fees at the Registry of Deeds to raise an estimated \$36 M for the Community Preservation Act Trust Fund**

Personnel and Labor Relations Policy Committee

Labor relations, collective bargaining, civil service, employment laws, health care and insurance, human resources, pensions and OPEB, veterans' benefits, workplace anti-discrimination, workplace safety, marijuana (workplace)



**Senior Legislative Analyst -
Lisa Adams**

An Act relative to collective bargaining dues

H. 3854 (Janus)

- ❑ **Legislature overrode Governor's veto**
- ❑ **New rules for non-union members for grievances and arbitrations**
- ❑ **New rules for employers**

An Act relative to collective bargaining dues Janus • Chapter 73 of the Acts of 2019

NEW RULES FOR EMPLOYERS

- Meetings during the workday
- Worksite meetings during lunch and off-hours
- 30 min meetings with newly-hired employees
- Use of public employer's email
- Use of government buildings for union meetings
- Personal information of bargaining unit employees to union
- New unfair labor practice charge (Chapter 150E)
- Local option for period of time to revoke agreement to pay dues or fees

Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML)

Chapter
175M

- Municipalities may adopt by majority vote of legislative body
- If a municipality does not adopt the PFML, the law *does not apply* in that municipality

This means:

- No payroll taxes withheld
- No notice requirement to employees
- No obligations under the law if do not adopt

H. 1681 & S. 1045:

- Would remove local option and mandate that PFML apply outright to municipal workforce
- **MMA opposes**

Healthcare Bills

Common themes

- Would increase healthcare costs by setting caps on deductibles & copayments
- Would change the composition of the GIC
- Would change healthcare contribution premium percentages, but grandfather in retirees
- Would allow unions to weigh in on selecting health insurance plans

MMA opposes these bills

Retirement Bills

Common themes

- Would add members to retirement systems
- Would award members more creditable service
- Would enhance pension eligibility (e.g., creditable years of service)

MMA's Concerns

- Would add to the existing multi-billion-dollar unfunded pension liabilities
- Would add to municipal OPEB liability
- Actuarial cost analyses do not accompany bills
- Cumulative effect of similar legislation unquantified

Municipal and Regional Administration Policy Committee

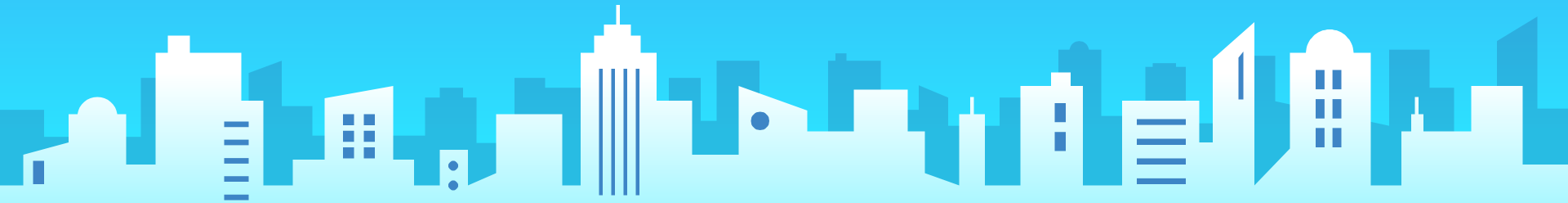
Economic development, housing production, licensing, local government administration, planning and zoning, marijuana (zoning and regulation), procurement and construction, public health and safety, open meeting law, public records law, licensing, telecommunications, federal issues



**Senior Legislative Analyst -
Brittney Franklin**

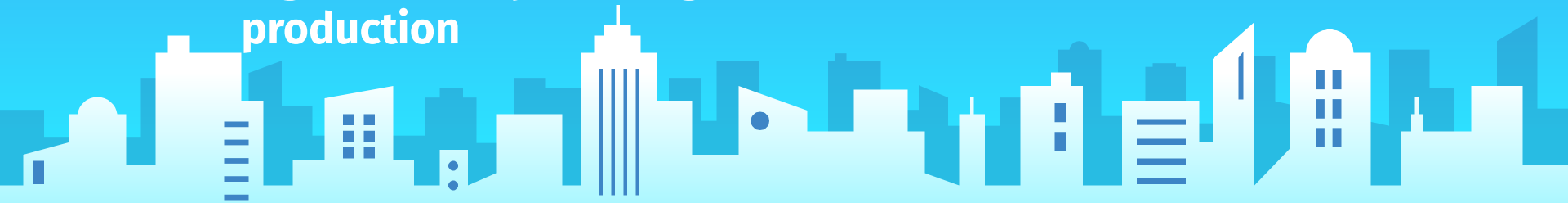
Housing/Zoning

- **Top priority continues to be H.3507 - An Act to Promote Housing Choices refiled by the Governor this session**
- **Includes the recommendations by the Housing Committee from last session**



Housing Choices Bill

- A tool that would allow housing-related zoning amendments and special permits to be approved by a simple majority of the local body
- Would facilitate zoning changes for higher-density housing production
- Does not override local zoning bylaws
- Does not contain zoning mandates
- Does not impose state-set zoning standards



Marijuana

- On July 29 at the Joint Committee on Cannabis Policy, MMA testified against 2 bills which would impact municipal authority in relation to the negotiation of Host Community Agreements (HCAs):
 - H. 3536 - An Act relative to the Cannabis Control Commission's authority regarding HCAs
 - S. 1126 - An Act relative to HCAs
- Final revised regulations include the social consumption pilot program and home delivery

Cable

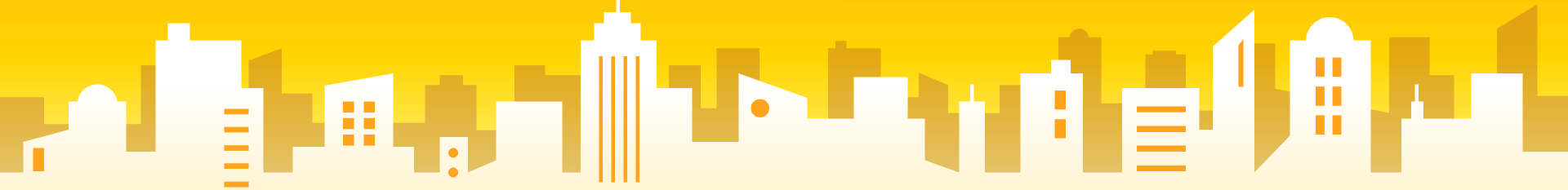
- **FCC ruling effective Sept. 26th changes longstanding definition of in-kind contributions - now included in 5% franchise fee cap**
- **Ruling applies to all existing cable franchising agreements**
- **120 days is “reasonable” time to re-negotiate once cable operators approach municipalities**
- **Ruling also preempts municipal authority to regulate services other than cable provided over cable systems**

Energy and the Environment & Public Works, Transportation and Public Utilities Policy Committees

Transportation, environment, energy, public works, utilities



**Legislative Analyst -
Ariela Lovett**



Climate Resilience

GreenWorks (H.3997)

- House Speaker DeLeo's \$1 B, 10-year bond bill
- Modeled after MassWorks infrastructure grants
- Funding for climate resilience and clean energy initiatives
- MMA testified in support
- Passed by House, pending in Senate

S.10

- Governor's bill to raise deeds excise tax to fund Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program ongoing
- Visit resilientma.org - MA Climate Change Clearinghouse

Other Environmental

Plastic Bag Ban (H.3945)

- MMA testified in support of statewide ban on plastic bags
- Bill reported out of ENRA committee with several changes
- No fee on paper bags, strong preemption of local bylaws
- MMA joined coalition to oppose changes to bill

Clean energy

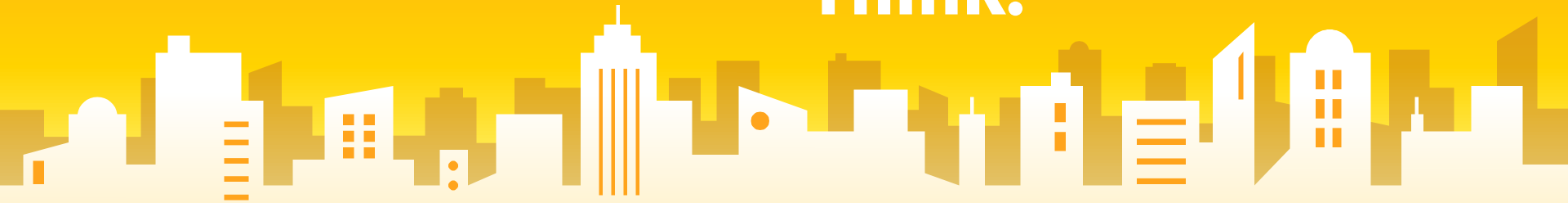
- SMART Program 400MW review - deadline for comment 9/27
- Expand program by 800MW
- MMA promoting best practices on solar, municipal aggregation, energy storage etc., and following bills on carbon pricing and renewable energy goals

Transportation Finance

- **Governor filed \$18 B transportation bond bill - H.4002**
Hearing scheduled for October 8
No increase to Ch. 90 program - \$200 M for FY21
- **MassDOT released congestion report - Hot spot = Rt. 93**
- **Both House and Senate committed to passing transportation finance bills this session**
- **MMA participating in several stakeholder working groups to find consensus on revenue raising proposals for transportation**



**Be Sure to Complete
Our Legislative
Breakfast Survey and
Let Us Know What You
Think!**





Thank you!