The State Budget

A tale of two competing visions.

The Governor v. GOP dominated Legislature.

Shockingly, budget enacted on time.

Except for transportation funding, status quo budget for municipalities.
Items in State Budget Affecting Municipalities

Shared Revenue, Expenditure Restraint, Payments for Municipal Services, and Recycling Programs – Remain funded at same levels.

Levy Limits -- Unaltered
Local Transportation Aids

General Transportation Aids – 10% increase ($35 million). *Second such increase in a row.*

Extra GTA for Towns – $2.5 million annually.

Mass Transit Operating Assistance – 2% increase for each tier of systems.
Local Transportation Aids

New, One-Time, Local Government Transportation Competitive Grant Program -- $75 million. 90/10 cost split. Any transportation project eligible.

Cities and villages – 25% ($18.5 million)
Counties – 36% ($26 million)
Towns – 39% ($28.8 million)
Cable Franchise Fee Reduction

Budget reduces local cable franchise fees .5 percent for two years for a total of 1% effective 1/1/21

The budget also creates a state aid program to compensate municipalities for the lost franchise fee revenue.
Items removed from state budget.

--Preemption of municipal powers to regulate location and operation of quarries.

--Dark store and Walgreens.

--Restoration of ability to use eminent domain for bike paths and recreational trails.

--20% cap on TIF developer cash grants.

--Restoration of prevailing wage requirements on municipal construction projects.
State Budget Biggest Disappointments

--Legislature’s rejection of Gov. Evers’ shared revenue increase and levy limit changes.

--League budget amendment stripped by GOP leadership removing stormwater management from list of covered services for which any new or increased fee requires a levy limit reduction.
Other bills we are working on

• AB 285, Increasing competitive bidding threshold from $25,000 to $50,000. *advancing*

• AB 146/SB 130, Dark Store and Walgreens. *treading water.*

• AB 288/SB 257, Personal Property Tax Repeal. *dead*
Other bills we are working on

- AB 203/SB 193, Allowing communities the option of using an electronic voting machine to cast an in-person absentee ballot. *Advancing*

- SB 291, Scheduling referendums to exceed levy limits earlier in the year. *advancing*

- AB 283, Requiring a referendum to enact a local vehicle registration fee. *Dead*
Other Bills we are working On

• SB 108, Cleaning up state law governing process for filling vacancies in city and village elective offices. advancing

• SB 203, Authorizing municipalities to allow clerks or other officials/staff to issue operator's licenses. advancing
Other bills we are working on

• SB 105/AB90, Exempting local governments from Fair Dealership Act. *advancing*

• AB 256/SB 234, Applying cap on relocation payments made in eminent domain actions to RDAs, CDAs, and Counties. *advancing*

• AB 235, Levy limit exception for communities receiving reduced utility aid payments when a power plant closes. *advancing*
Other Issues we are working on

• PFAS Regulation