

Resolution No. 19-294

**Resolution Establishing The City Of Iowa City's
2020 Legislative Priorities**

Whereas, the Iowa City City Council seeks to encourage legislation that enhances the quality of life for residents in Iowa City as well as the State of Iowa; and

Whereas, the City of Iowa City and other cities play a critical role in the future of the State; and

Whereas, it is in the interest of the residents of Iowa City that the City Council establish legislative priorities and convey said priorities to our State delegation and other relevant stakeholders.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Iowa City City Council hereby outlines its legislative proposals to the Iowa City area legislative delegation for the 2020 Iowa State legislative session as follows:

Support for Climate Action Initiatives

Support initiatives and legislation that further the goals contained in Iowa City's Climate Crisis Declaration, Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, and Strategic Plan. Iowa City encourages the State to take steps to meet International Panel on Climate Change emission targets and allow for greater flexibility for local government in terms of building and energy codes, water quality measures, and funding mechanisms.

Support University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) proposal regarding rental property move-in checklists

UISG has provided to the City their policy recommendation for State legislation regarding itemized move-in checklists for rental properties. UISG recommends legislation requiring the use of checklists by landlords and tenants and an associated process for implementation. City staff have reviewed this recommendation and are supportive. UISG's proposal is included in Council's packet.

Support legislation protecting the rights of manufactured housing residents

Recent sales of manufactured housing communities statewide and the resulting impact on those communities has led to discussions at both the state and local levels regarding how best to protect the rights of the families living in these communities. A recent report issued by the Johnson County Mobile Home Task Force includes a number of recommendations for state legislation.

Ensure the continued funding of commercial & industrial property tax replacement payments

2013 property tax reform measures are placing significant financial pressures on cities across the state. Over the next several years, cities will be challenged to maintain basic service levels, even with State of Iowa property tax backfill reimbursements. The magnitude of backfill payments for many cities is such that in addition to basic service cuts, property tax rates will likely be raised to compensate for the lost revenue. Raising tax rates to compensate for reduced taxable value negates the intention of property tax reform. Backfilling a portion of property tax revenue lost to local jurisdictions was an important component of the 2013 legislation and recognized the necessity of this revenue for local government operations.

Protect Home Rule authority for local governments

Local governments are uniquely positioned to respond to the needs and priorities of our residents and taxpayers. Cities innovate in response to local conditions and implement new ideas that can benefit the State as a whole and more closely reflect the priorities of the public we serve. This includes local flexibility in local building codes, revenue options, and land use decisions.

Support the continued excellence of the State's primary, secondary, and higher education institutions and advocate for additional education funding

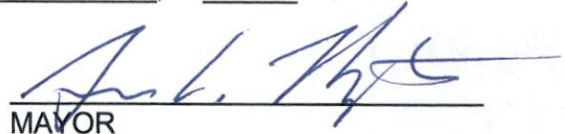
Iowa's primary and secondary schools are fundamental drivers of the State's economic growth, standard of living, and future prosperity. It is essential for the success of the State and our local communities that support for our schools is a top priority in the State's budget.

The University of Iowa plays a critical role in supporting statewide economic, social, and cultural growth. It is important the State of Iowa provides the university the needed resources to ensure the university's continued ability to facilitate growth opportunities in varied sectors of the business community. Likewise, community colleges play an important role in ensuring the continued competitiveness and inclusivity of the state's economy. The City encourages the State to carefully consider and support the legislative and financial priorities of the University of Iowa and Kirkwood Community College.

Support the legislative efforts of the Iowa League of Cities and the Metro Coalition

Iowa City, as a member city of both organizations, supports the legislative priorities set forth by the Iowa League of Cities and by the Metropolitan Coalition for the 2020 legislative session.

Passed and approved this 3rd day of December, 2019.


MAYOR

ATTEST: 
CITY CLERK

Approved by  11-27-19
City Attorney's Office

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It was moved by Mims and seconded by Cole the
Resolution be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

AYES:	NAYS:	ABSENT:	
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Cole
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Mims
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Salih
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Taylor
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Teague
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Thomas
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Throgmorton