



## AGENDA PILOT Committee Meeting

Wilder Foundation  
451 Lexington Parkway North, St. Paul, 55104  
**Thursday May 18, 2017**  
7:30 am – 9:00 am

**Project scope:** Is a 'payment in lieu of taxes' and/or 'services in lieu of taxes' (PILOT/SILOT) model advisable for St. Paul, and how would the program be structured and sustained if so?

### Proposed Committee outcomes:

- Findings: Shared understanding of the facts, data and local/national trends on this issue that are accessible and relevant to broader public.
- Conclusions: Shared set of statements and questions related to the implications of these findings. Why do they matter to the citizens of St. Paul and the region?
- Recommendations: Proposed set of actionable recommendations IF changes are needed to address current situation. Recommendations might come in phases.
- Base of support for implementation: Buy-in from key stakeholders needed to advance and sustain any potential recommendations.

### Proposed outcomes for May 18 meeting:

- Discuss May 11 meeting and identify additional data/questions that need to be brought/discussed at subsequent meetings;
- Learn about and discuss the legal fundamentals of tax exempt properties;
- Review the fundamentals of the property tax system in Minnesota and on the types of tax exempt properties in St. Paul; and
- Discuss agenda for June 1 meeting and additional speakers/data/questions.

## AGENDA

1. Review/approve agenda and outcomes (7:30 – 7:40, Co-Chairs)
2. Feedback and discussion on May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting (Co-Chairs, 7:40 – 7:50)
3. Legal fundamentals of tax exempt properties in Minnesota (Jean Stepan, County Attorney's Office, 7:50 – 8:20)
4. Fundamentals of property taxes in Minnesota and types of tax exempt properties in St. Paul (Chris Samuel, Ramsey County, 8:20 – 9:10)
5. Discussion and June 1 agenda (Co-chairs, 9:10 – 9:25)
6. Evaluation (Co-Chairs, 9:25 – 9:30)

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**Notes:**

## Citizens League's Governing Document

*An internal document for Citizens League Board, staff, members and key partners that describes who we are, how we do our work, and how we measure success.*

**Mission.** The Citizens League is a member-supported nonpartisan nonprofit organization that champions the role of all Minnesotans to govern for the common good and promote democracy.

**Vision Statement.** Through our work:

- Minnesotans of all backgrounds, parties and ideologies are engaged, inspired and empowered to see the role they play in public policy and act on it, reigniting Minnesota's ability to implement innovative and effective policy solutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; and
- The Citizens League is a relevant and respected policy resource, leveraging the strength of our 60-year legacy with a focus on solving tomorrow's problems, and earning the ongoing support of our members, board, leadership and staff.

**Operating Guidelines.** We are unique in our ability to address *how* policy happens. We do this by:

- **Bringing diverse perspectives and people together.** We serve as a rare neutral convener – true “common ground for the common good” – in a fractured political and policy landscape.
  - **Standard:** People impacted by a problem should help to define it in light of their own self-interest and the common interest of all Minnesotans. Bringing people together across boundaries of ideology, backgrounds, race/ethnicity, geography, sectors and parties produces a better definition of the problem. Ideally, this process should help clarify the role that individuals and organizations can and should play in policy questions.
- **Advancing policy solutions in collaboration with a broad base of support.** Engaging diverse stakeholders creates the breadth of resources necessary to impact policy.
  - **Standard:** Transparency and good governance are critical to building trust between all parties involved in the process, and evaluation is critical at every stage. If people trust the process, they are more likely to trust the outcome.
- **Reframing the conversation.** People look to the Citizens League for objectivity: weighing short-term self-interests of all parties involved and long-term needs of Minnesota. We work with all types of Minnesotans to understand important public policy issues and the role citizens can play in contributing to solutions.
  - **Standard:** *Data and evidence-based research should be the foundation for decision-making, and policy statements of all types must be accessible and connect the larger systemic policy issues to the real stories of Minnesotans impacted by these policies.*
- **Considering political pragmatism along with policy idealism.** The goal is not just to promote a set of ideas or proposals, but to have a real and sustained impact on the policies and systems that impact the quality of life and economic health of Minnesotans.
  - **Standard:** *Our proposals should be politically achievable and plausible inside a variety of organizations and sectors, including but not limited to government, without sacrificing the long-term interests of Minnesotans.*