



Maine Municipal Association

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June 20, 2012

Mike McGovern
Town Manager
Town of Cape Elizabeth
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Ballots are being mailed to MMA's member municipalities for the 2012-2014 term of the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC). Based on an agreement with the City of South Portland which is also in your Senate District (which is also its LPC District), the Town of Cape Elizabeth is allowed to appoint one representative to the LPC. (The other LPC representative in your District is appointed by South Portland.) The appointee must be an elected or appointed municipal official who is currently serving in office. For more information about the LPC, a copy of the current *LPC Handbook* is enclosed.

When making this appointment, it is important for the Council to consider the level of commitment necessary to represent your municipality on the LPC. During each legislative session, the LPC meets once a month in Augusta, and LPC members are called upon to actively participate in advocacy efforts, perhaps by contacting their legislators about a pressing bill, writing a letter to the editor or even attending a particularly important public hearing in Augusta. Outside of the legislative session, the LPC meets at least once or twice a year in the fall or early winter for the purpose of developing the Association's legislative agenda.

To that end, a process will begin shortly after the election of the new LPC for the purpose of brainstorming and ultimately developing MMA's legislative agenda for the 2013-2014 biennium. With input from your community's LPC member, any number of emerging (or perhaps long-neglected) issues could rise to top priority positions in the Association's legislative platform. For example, past Legislative Policy Committees have developed legislative agendas that focused on protecting municipal revenue sharing, eliminating or mitigating unwelcome state mandates, addressing taxation policy inequities and overbroad tax exemptions, and enhancing property tax relief programs. In addition to potentially significant or sweeping public policy proposals, it is often the case that the LPC agenda includes technical bills correcting or updating current state law to assist municipal officials in the work they do. Whatever the upcoming municipal priorities may be, it is very important that the interests of your community are well represented.

Please notify us in writing as soon as possible when the Town has made its appointment, providing us with the appointee's contact information. If you would like to designate an alternate at this time, please provide the contact information for that person. If you have any questions, please call MMA's State and Federal Relations staff at 623-8428.

Sincerely,

Sophia Wilson
President, MMA