



2025 Legislative Priorities

The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA), an intergovernmental agency representing 45 municipalities and nearly 750,000 residents, serves diverse communities across the Southland, many that have long struggled for inclusive economic growth. We look to partner with state lawmakers on a shared agenda that lays the groundwork for a strong and equitable recovery for our Southland region so that current residents and future generations thrive and succeed. The following are SSMMA’s legislative priorities for 2025:

1. *Preserve Current Public Safety Pension Commitments*

- Halt Efforts to Return or Roll Back Tier II Benefits to Tier I Levels
- Prohibit Pension Enhancements that Destabilize Municipalities & Impact Taxpayers
- Advance State-National Firefighter and EMT Test Remedy
- Enhance Public Safety Recruitment Initiatives

2. *Ensure Stability and Sustainability - Address Property Tax Crisis and Disparity*

- Implement a Minimum Property Tax Amount or “Base” to Stabilize Tax Bills
- Support a State-funded Circuit Breaker Program
- Halt Unfunded Mandates That Impose Hardship to Resource-Limited Communities
- Prioritize Resources and Direct State and Regional Funds to Struggling Areas

3. *Secure and Protect Promised Revenues*

- Work Towards Full Restoration of Local Government Distributive Funds (LGDF)
- Ensure LGDF is Indexed to Any Future Increase in State Income Tax Rates
- Stabilize Personal Property Replacement Tax (PPRT)
- Modernize Revenue Structure to Account for Shifting Consumption Patterns

4. *Improve Community Quality of Life and Equitable Opportunity*

- Accelerate Infrastructure Investments in Southland Region
- Address Northeast Illinois’ Transit Crisis and Access to Jobs
- Foster Economic Development and Recovery by Updating Fiscally Distressed Cities Law
- Preserve Existing Municipal Authority to Implement Housing Programs and Ordinances