



MINNESOTA SHOPPING
CENTER ASSOCIATION

The 2019 legislative session convened on January 8, 2019. The legislature will be setting the budget for the state this session. The Minnesota Constitutional deadline for adjournment is May 20th. March 27th, 2019 is the Minnesota Business Day at the Capitol.

The following are points MSCA members can use when talking to legislators at the Capitol.

- Each year, Minnesota Shopping Centers generate almost half of the state's sales tax revenue. Employment at shopping centers creates Minnesota jobs at every level: entry, managerial, sales, distribution and executive positions.

Business Property Taxes

- MSCA urges lawmakers to maintain the State General Property tax reductions passed in 2017.
- Due to automatic annual increases, the tax had risen from \$592 million when first imposed in 2002 to \$863 million in 2016.
- Reducing the CI property tax supports jobs and reduces an uncompetitive regressive tax. Simply exempting lower market value property from the property tax base only creates winners and losers in the marketplace.
- Property taxes are passed directly to our tenants, hindering their ability to grow and compete.

Transportation Funding

- An efficient transportation system is important for the success of shopping centers and all commercial real estate businesses. The legislature needs to pass additional transportation funding without unduly burdening business tax payers.
- All forms of our state's transportation infrastructure: roads, bridges and transit should be planned for and addressed during the legislative session. MSCA supports comprehensive and long-term funding solutions for our transportation infrastructure.

SAC/WAC

- Help find ways businesses can have a voice in reforming and improving the Sewer Availability Charges (SAC) set by the Met Council.