



MINNESOTA SHOPPING
CENTER ASSOCIATION

The 2020 legislative session begins on February 11th. The Minnesota Constitutional deadline for adjournment is May 18th. February 27th is the Chamber Day at the Capitol and March 26th is the Commercial Real Estate Morning 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 that were passed in 2017.
- Property taxes are typically passed down to our tenants, many of which are small businesses. This ultimately raises their operating cost.

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 if transportation funding is addressed in this legislative session. MSCA supports comprehensive and long-term funding solutions for our transportation infrastructure.

Local Municipal Fees

- MSCA supports transparency in the evaluating and use of municipal fees. Holding our local municipalities accountable for reporting collected building fees, which is required by law, is a priority.
- In a 2019 report, by the Housing Affordability Institute, it was estimated that nearly 200 Minnesota cities failed to report how much they were collecting in building permit fees. Additionally, the municipalities that filed reports collected \$78 million more than they spent on related services over the last five years.