

# ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol

 An MPAU Publication



## BUDGET WEEK TAKES CENTER STAGE

The Missouri Legislature begins in January, but all the true action occurs during the last two weeks. This year is no exception.

The Budget will take center stage this week. The almost \$30 billion budget was in trouble just a few weeks ago. The failure of the state to change the Missouri tax tables after the federal tax cut made it difficult to forecast revenue projections. On March 25th, the state was \$350 million below revenue collections from the previous year. Since April 15th, the state has erased the shortfall and now has a surplus. The budget must be complete by Friday at six o'clock. Two issues of note in this year's budget are the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund in DNR's [HB 6](#) Budget for \$13.750M funding for water commissions and the \$5M in Broadband Grants in the

Department of Economic Development's [HB 7](#). The monies for water commissions should be set, but the conference committee on HB 7 must reconcile the differences between the House (\$2.5M) and Senate (\$5M) budget versions.

The Utility Sale Transparency Act for fourth class cities has been added to several bills. SB 203 and [HB 831](#) now contain the proposed language. MAMU has worked the entire session with Missouri American on proposed language and believe we have reached a compromise. Liberty Utilities and Summit Utilities agree as well.

The Grain Belt Express continues to be our biggest fight. A hearing on [HB 1062](#) in the Senate Commerce Committee went very well last week. Several of our member cities showed up to testify. We

appreciate Albany, Hannibal, Harrisonville, Hermann, Kirkwood, Lamar, Marshall, Odessa, Rolla, and Shelbina showing up to testify and speaking with legislators afterwards. The bill will be voted on in committee Monday at 2:45. We are working tirelessly on this issue. Call your Senator and tell them you are against HB 1062.

Tree trimming, sunshine law for customers bill and asset management legislation are all still alive. We will keep you posted as things develop.

*The MAMU Legislative Committee will meet tomorrow, May 7, in room 316 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City. Please plan to attend. If you are unable to join us in person, a call-in number will be provided.*

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

Municipal utilities urge Senators to oppose HB 1062, [MPUAonline, May 6](#)  
Landowners, utilities clash over bill that threatens Grain Belt Express, [KOMU-TV May 1](#)  
Lawmakers take on Grain Belt quarrel, [Columbia Tribune, May 1](#)  
House Budget Committee starts vetting bonding compromise for bridge repairs, [Missouri Times, May 1](#)  
OPINION: MO House of Representatives should not pick winners/losers, [Missouri Times -Clayton, April 19](#)

### MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

#### Senator Denny Hoskins

R - District 28

**Elected to Senate:** 2016

**Committees:** Chair- Small Business & Industry; Vice-Chair - Agriculture, Food Production & Outdoor

Resources; Appropriations; Economic Development; Insurance & Banking; Veterans & Military Affairs.

**Lives in:** Warrensburg

**MPUA cities:** Carrollton, Chillicothe, Fayette, Knob Noster, Lexington, Marshall, Norborne, Odessa, Slater, Warrensburg.

**Tidbit:** Sen. Hoskins previously served as a state representative from 2008-2016. In addition to legislative duties, Hoskins is a CPA and works for a professional accounting firm.



### BILL BYTES: A quick look at bills being tracked by MPAU

[Find the complete bill report online here.](#)

<a href="#">HB 1062</a>	<a href="#">Hansen, Jim(R)</a>
Modifies provisions for eminent domain for utility purposes. <b>[NOTE: Hearing today]</b>	
<a href="#">HB 6</a>	<a href="#">Smith, Cody(R)</a>
Appropriates money for the expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, and Department of Conservation. <b>[NOTE: \$13.750M for water commissions; Hearing tomorrow]</b>	
<a href="#">HB 831</a>	<a href="#">Sharpe, Greg(R)</a>
Establishes special license plate for the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives. <b>[NOTE: Expected S floor vote early this wk - includes MAMU license plate; municipal tree trimming; utility customer sunshine exemption; utility sale transparency]</b>	
<a href="#">HB 160</a>	<a href="#">Knight, Jeff(R)</a>
Allows Public Service Commission to authorize a low income rate for water and sewer service. <b>[NOTE: Expected S floor vote. IOU low-income rate class; water risk and resiliency; water lead testing in schools; utility sale transparency]</b>	
<a href="#">SB 167</a>	<a href="#">Crawford, Sandy(R)</a>
Modifies provisions relating to bonding requirements on public works <b>[NOTE: Expected H floor vote]</b>	

Volume 8, Issue 13  
May 6, 2019

### LINKS

[Find Your Legislator](#)  
[House Session Dates](#)  
[Senate Session Dates](#)  
[MPUA Website](#)

### MPUA CALENDAR

[Full Calendar](#)

May 7 | 10am  
MAMU Legislative  
Committee Mtg  
Gov. Office Bldg. 316  
Jefferson City, MO

May 5-11  
Safe Drinking  
Water Week

May 19-25  
National Public  
Works Week

May 27  
MPUA office closed  
(Memorial Day)

### TRAINING

May 29 & 30  
Substation Training  
(Chillicothe)

May 30  
Digital Media  
Workshop  
(Columbia)



1808 I-70 Dr. SW  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-445-3279  
[www.mpuia.org](#)