

Please complete the survey by December 14, 2012

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Go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sotc13> & enter the User ID found on the top of this page.

1. Overall, would you say that your city is better or less able to...

- a. Meet financial needs in fiscal year 2012 than last year? *(check one)* Better Able Less Able
- b. Address its financial needs in the next fiscal year (2013) compared to this fiscal year? *(check one)* Better Able Less Able

2. Please indicate whether FY2011 revenue shortfalls in the following areas were less than 10% or greater than 10% as a percentage of funding expected from each revenue source:

Check one box for each item on the list below. Shortfall = actual receipts fell below predicted or budgeted receipts. Not all revenue sources are available to cities in all states—in this case, please mark “not authorized.”

	No Shortfall	Shortfall <10% of Expected	Shortfall >10% of Expected	Not Authorized in my City
a. Property tax revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Fees, charges, license revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Sales tax revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Local income/commuter tax revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Lodging, restaurant, amusement, other tourist-related taxes..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. State revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Federal revenues.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Please complete both Part A and Part B below.

Indicate in Part A whether there has been an increase, a decrease, or no change in an item between FY2011 and FY2012 for your city.

Select ONE response in Part A: Change for each item.

Indicate in Part B whether it had no impact, a moderate impact, or a major impact on your city’s overall FY2012 budget.

Select ONE response in Part B: Impact for each item.

	<u>PART A: CHANGE</u>				<u>PART B: IMPACT</u>		
	Increase	No Change	Decrease		No Impact	Moderate Impact	Major Impact
a. Value of city tax base...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Service needs of new development.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Amount of federal aid to city.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Federal environmental mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Federal non-environ. mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. State environmental mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. State non-environ. mandates.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Go to Part B →	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Increase	No	Decrease		No	Moderate	Major

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	Change				Impact	Impact	Impact
h. Restrictiveness of state tax and expenditure limits on cities.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
i. Public safety needs.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
j. Infrastructure needs.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
k. Human service needs.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
l. Education needs.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
m. Cost of employee pensions.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
n. Cost of employee health benefits.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
o. Employee wages and salaries.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
p. Prices, inflation, cost of living.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
q. Population (# of people in city).....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇
r. Health of local economy.....	∇	∇	∇	Go to Part B →	∇	∇	∇

4. Please indicate which actions your city has taken in FY2012 for the 2013 fiscal year:

Check one box for each item on the list; if your city does not have authority to take action regarding an item, please check the “not authorized” box.

	Significant Increase in 2013	Slight Increase in 2013	Maintain	Slight Decrease in 2013	Significant Decrease in 2013	Not Authorized
a. Taxes.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
b. Reliance on ending balances/reserves.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
c. Fees/charges/licenses increases.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
d. Growth rate of operating spending.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
e. Actual infrastructure spending.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
f. Actual public safety spending.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
g. Other spending.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
h. Service cutbacks/elimination.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
i. Privatizing or contracting out.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
j. Productivity levels.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
k. Number and/or scope of interlocal agreements or other cost-sharing plans...	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
l. Size of city government workforce.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
m. Wage levels.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
n. Use of furloughs.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
o. Level of employee benefits.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
p. Other.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇

5. If you would like to clarify or explain any of your responses to questions 1-4, please use the space below.

6. The following question relates to volunteer engagement.

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Please complete Part 1 and Part 2 for each service area in the table below.
Please check "NA" if your city does not directly provide service in a particular area.

In PART 1 indicate if your city is regularly using volunteers now or is considering regularly using volunteers in the future.

In PART 2 indicate if volunteers primarily perform tasks that city staff used to do or if volunteers supplement the work of paid staff.

	PART 1				PART 2	
	Regularly using now	Considering for future	Not using or considering	NA	Tasks that city staff used to do	Supplement work of paid staff
a. Administration.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
b. Police.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
c. Fire.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
d. Streets.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
e. Water and sewer.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
f. Parks and recreation.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
g. Senior services.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
h. Library.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
i. Transportation.....	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
j. Other (please specify) _____	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇

Please also indicate if you would be willing to be a case study city for a League project that will highlight local initiatives related to volunteers.

∇ My city is willing to be a case study.

7. The following section relates to organized solid waste collection.

- Please complete Question Set A if your city currently uses organized solid waste collection.
- Please complete Question Set B if your city does not currently use organized solid waste collection.

Question Set A: City is currently using organized solid waste collection

Please complete Part 1 and Part 2 for each service in the table below.

In PART 1 indicate where the city is currently using organized collection and where the city is considering it.

In PART 2 select the appropriate collection method(s) the city uses for each service.

Please check "NA" if your city does not directly provide a particular service.

Service	PART 1			PART 2				
	City currently uses	City is considering	NA	Single hauler	Zones	City-provided	Limited number of contracts	Other
Residential solid waste	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
Residential recycling	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
Composting	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
C/I solid waste	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
C/I recycling	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
Other	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇

Question Set B: City does not currently use organized solid waste collection

Please complete Questions 1 and 2 below.

1. Has your city ever actively tried to organize solid waste collection?

- No
- Yes. Please briefly describe the experience and any reasons behind the outcome.

2. For each service please check all of the organized solid waste collection methods that your city is like to consider using in the future:

Service	Single hauler	Zones	City-provided	Limited number of contracts	Other	Not likely to consider
Residential solid waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residential recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Composting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C/I solid waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C/I recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. The following questions relate to overtime.

Thinking in terms of a general trend, has the amount of your general fund budget dedicated to overtime costs increased over the last 5 years due to staff cuts?

- NA
- No, it has not increased due to staff cuts
- Yes, it has increased roughly 1-5%
- Yes, it has increased roughly 6-10%
- Yes, it has increased roughly 11-20%
- Yes, it has increased by more than 20%

Does your city have a policy limiting overtime?

- No
- Yes

9. The following questions relate to labor arbitration.

What is your city’s total cost of a typical labor arbitration?

This includes not only arbitrator charges but also advocate costs, transcription fees, etc. Please do not include any settlement costs.

- NA, My city does not have bargaining units subject to arbitration.
- NA, My city has been able to settle without arbitration.

\$ _____

Of this total cost, roughly what share is city staff time costs? _____

Over the last 5 years how many arbitrations has your city had?

- 0
- 1-3
- 4-6
- 7-10
- 11-20
- More than 20
- Don't know

10. The following questions will help the League improve its training offerings.

Please respond to the following from your perspective.

Help us determine what the League’s training priorities should be. Rate each of the following topics on a scale of 1 (I have no interest or need for this topic) to 4 (This topic should be a high priority).

Topic	1 No interest/ need	2	3	4 High priority
Civility/conflict resolution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collaboration/redesign	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community engagement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contract management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Data practices/records retention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employee safety/wellness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health care reform	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open meeting law	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revenue/financial management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social media	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How long are you typically willing to travel for League workshops and trainings (in minutes)?

Is there a topic that interests you enough so that you would travel longer than the time indicated above to attend a training or workshop?

∇ No

∇ Yes, please specify: _____

We want to learn more about our members' opinions on alternative ways to deliver training, such as webinars and streamed video. Indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements:

Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
I would participate in online informational briefings (e.g., state/federal legislative updates).	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
I would participate in online training on general management topics (e.g., data practices, financial management, land use regulation).	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
I would like online training to be enhanced with opportunities to network/learn with colleagues in my area.	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
I have appropriate technology to access webinars and streamed video.	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
There is a local site that could host group participation in web-based trainings.	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇

If it is okay for LMC staff to follow-up/use your responses in talking to legislators please be sure to provide your contact info below:

Your name: _____

Title: _____

City: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

To complete this survey online, go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sotc13>.

Enter your user ID, «ID», when prompted.

OR

Mail or fax your completed survey to:

Lena Gould
 League of Minnesota Cities
 145 University Ave W
 Saint Paul MN 55013-2044
 Fax: 651-215-4143

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.