

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: NEIL JENSEN, City Administrator
SUBJECT: Statutory Tort Limits
MEETING DATE: January 4, 2022

BACKGROUND

The City of Cannon Falls obtains liability insurance coverage from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. The Council must annually decide whether or not to waive the statutory tort liability limits to the extent of the coverage purchased.

The City has not waived the monetary limits on municipal tort liability in the past.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Please make a motion to not waive the Tort Limits as set by Minnesota Statutes.

LIABILITY COVERAGE – WAIVER FORM

Members who obtain liability coverage through the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) must complete and return this form to LMCIT before the member's effective date of coverage. Return completed form to your underwriter or email to pstech@lmc.org.

The decision to waive or not waive the statutory tort limits must be made annually by the member's governing body, in consultation with its attorney if necessary.

Members who obtain liability coverage from LMCIT must decide whether to waive the statutory tort liability limits to the extent of the coverage purchased. The decision has the following effects:

- *If the member does not waive the statutory tort limits*, an individual claimant could recover no more than \$500,000 on any claim to which the statutory tort limits apply. The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would be limited to \$1,500,000. These statutory tort limits would apply regardless of whether the member purchases the optional LMCIT excess liability coverage.
- *If the member waives the statutory tort limits and does not purchase excess liability coverage*, a single claimant could recover up to \$2,000,000 for a single occurrence (under the waive option, the tort cap liability limits are only waived to the extent of the member's liability coverage limits, and the LMCIT per occurrence limit is \$2,000,000). The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would also be limited to \$2,000,000, regardless of the number of claimants.
- *If the member waives the statutory tort limits and purchases excess liability coverage*, a single claimant could potentially recover an amount up to the limit of the coverage purchased. The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would also be limited to the amount of coverage purchased, regardless of the number of claimants.

Claims to which the statutory municipal tort limits do not apply are not affected by this decision.

LMCIT Member Name: _____

Check one:

☐ The member **DOES NOT WAIVE** the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by [Minn. Stat. § 466.04](#).

☐ The member **WAIVES** the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by [Minn. Stat. § 466.04](#), to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage obtained from LMCIT.

Date of member's governing body meeting: _____

Signature: _____ Position: _____