
TO: Kate Thunstrom, City Administrator
FROM: Darcy Mulvihill, Finance Director
SUBJECT: Authorization Not to Waive Statutory Liability Limits
DATE: August 4, 2025

OVERVIEW:

Historically, the city has chosen to not waive the statutory liability limits. Waiving the statutory limit would likely increase premiums.

Per the League:

Cities obtaining liability coverage from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust must decide whether or not to waive the statutory tort liability limits to the extent of the coverage purchased. The decision to waive or not to waive the statutory limits has the following effects:

1. *If the city does not waive the statutory tort limits*, an individual claimant would be able to recover no more than \$500,000. on any claim to which the statutory tort limits apply. The total which all claimants would be able to 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 or not the city purchases the optional excess liability coverage.
2. *If the member waives the statutory tort limits and does not purchase excess liability coverage*, a single claimant could potentially recover up to \$2,000,000 for a single occurrence. (Under this option, the tort cap liability limits are waived to the extent of the member's liability coverage limits, and the LMCIT per occurrence limit is \$2 million.) The total all claimants would be able to 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.
3. *If the city 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 which all claimants would be able to 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. This decision must be made by the city council. Cities purchasing coverage must complete and return this form to LMCIT before the effective date of the coverage. For further information, contact LMCIT. You may also wish to discuss these issues with your city attorney. Claims to which the statutory municipal tort limits do not apply are not affected by this decision.

ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED:

Motion to Not Waive Statutory liability limits.

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

Insurance premiums are budgeted for each year with the limits not waived.

Attachments:

- Liability Coverage Waiver Form-2025.