

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the Cities for Safe and Stable Communities (MN)?

A nonpartisan, coalition of city-led groups of Minnesota local governments coordinating around public safety, operational stability, and the local impacts of recent federal actions.

Why was the coalition formed?

Cities across Minnesota are experiencing similar strains on public safety resources, city operations, and community trust. The coalition exists to support coordination, reduce duplication, and provide a collective way for cities to communicate and respond while retaining full local control.

What is the coalition's core statement?

We are a nonpartisan coalition of Minnesotan cities working together to restore stability, trust, and effective local governance. Operation Metro Surge has created instability that strains local public safety resources and disrupts local economies—affecting businesses, schools, and families well beyond the Twin Cities.

We stand for the rule of law and respect the role of federal immigration enforcement. We expect federal leadership to direct agencies in a way that recognizes local jurisdiction and responsibilities, while respecting the integrity of our cities as a whole. We are concerned that current enforcement approaches may risk undermining constitutional protections and place cities at legal and operational risk. We are calling for improved coordination grounded in the rule of law, due process, and respect for local governance.

There is strength in numbers. When cities raise concerns individually, they can be dismissed. A unified, nonpartisan coalition cannot. We are urging immediate de-escalation, clearer coordination, and a return to stability so cities can do their jobs and Minnesotans can feel secure in their communities.

Is this a political or advocacy organization?

No. The coalition is focused on local governance, public safety, and effective intergovernmental coordination. Participation does not require lobbying, litigation, or public advocacy unless a city independently chooses to engage in those activities.

How is the coalition governed?

The coalition is coordinated by a managing committee of city managers who provide direction on strategy, messaging, and coordination. Consensus is the goal; when consensus cannot be reached, decisions are made by vote.

How does the coalition direct the consultant?

Momentum Advocacy works at the direction of participating cities, with primary points of contact designated by the managing committee. Momentum provides messaging guidance, draft materials, and coordination support, and designates point people for specific needs to streamline communication.

Are coalition materials public?

Coalition materials are intended for internal use unless explicitly designated otherwise.

How are communications handled?

Tactical or transactional information may be shared directly. Coalition-wide strategy and messaging materials are routed through the managing committee for coordination.

How should media inquiries be handled?

Media inquiries related to the coalition should follow each city's typical internal media procedures. Momentum can assist with talking point preparation and may coordinate or follow up on requests stemming from coalition press advisories. Coalition-related media questions may be directed to kdrake@momentum-advocacy.com

What does participation require?

Participation is flexible and defined by each city. It may include staying informed through shared updates, sharing operational or data insights, coordinating messaging where helpful, and participating in joint engagement or media if desired.

Does participation require public statements or media engagement?

No. Cities choose whether and how they participate publicly.

What if our city does not want to join formally?

That is completely fine. Cities may stay informed, share perspective or data, selectively amplify shared messages, and revisit participation at a later time. Cities may contact akise@momentum-advocacy.com to receive updates.

What types of information are shared?

Information may include general operational impacts, public safety or service-delivery considerations, media inquiries and messaging context, and relevant federal or state developments. Cities control what they choose to share.

Who should our point of contact be?

City managers or administrators are asked to serve as the primary point of contact. Additional staff, including communications and policy staff, may also be included.

How do we learn more or express interest?

Cities may contact Alexis Kise (akise@momentum-advocacy.com) to request materials, ask questions, or indicate how they would like to engage.

Is there a cost to participate in the Cities Coalition?

There is no cost to stay informed or engage as an ally. Cities that choose to formally join receive shared communications support and coalition infrastructure and are asked to contribute an amount determined by the Executive Committee. Questions related to contributions or participation structure should be directed to Mike Funk (mfunk@minnetonkamn.gov).