

MUNICIPAL HOME RULE PROGRAM

City of Dunbar

2019
PROGRESS
REPORT

West Virginia
Municipal Home Rule Board
P. O. Box 11360
Charleston, WV 25339-1360
MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov
304.558.3356

West Virginia State Code §8-1-5a (m) provides:

“Commencing December 1, 2015, and each year thereafter, each participating municipality shall give a progress report to the Municipal Home Rule Board and commencing January 1, 2016, and each year thereafter, the Municipal Home Rule Board shall give a summary report of all the participating municipalities to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.”

The Municipal Home Rule Board has developed this standard format for Home Rule Program participating municipalities to prepare and submit their respective Annual Progress Reports. The intent of this standard format is to gather and compile information in a consistent, easily understood, and efficient manner that will be used to develop a concise and practical summary report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.

Annual Progress Reports must be submitted electronically as an individual file in PDF format no later than the close of business on the first business day of December, by emailing to WV Municipal Home Rule Board at MunicipalHomeRule@wv.gov.

A. General Information		
Name of Municipality: City of Dunbar		
Certifying Official: William E. Cunningham	Title: Mayor	
Contact Person: William E. Cunningham	Title: Mayor	
Address: PO Box 483		
City, State, Zip: Dunbar, WV 25064		
Telephone Number: 304-766-0220	Fax Number: 304-766-0230	
E-Mail Address: dunbarmayor.billc@gmail.com		
2010 Census Population:		
B. Municipal Classification		
<input type="checkbox"/> Class I <input type="checkbox"/> Class II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class III <input type="checkbox"/> Class IV		
C. Attest		
I hereby confirm that I am the authorized official for this municipality and certify that the information submitted herein and attached hereto is true and accurate and that this report addresses each and every initiative included in the original Home Rule Pilot Program Plan Application for this municipality and any subsequent amendments, if applicable.		
William E. Cunningham, Mayor		
Type Name of Certifying Official	Signature of Certifying Official	Date

Please use this page to report progress on each **non-tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application and Amendment(s). Each non-tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: Issuance of on the spot citations for building code violations.
Was this non-tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input type="checkbox"/> or a plan amendment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ?
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? April 20, 2015
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
<p>SUCSESSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative which highlights successes realized through the implementation of this initiative and any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>Ordinance 1729 (725 as enacted) gives the Building Inspector the authority to issue on the spot citations for external sanitation and nuisance violations. The City has issued over 450 citations for external violations during this reporting period.</p> <p>The City demolished 6 structures that were in code violation during this reporting period.</p> <p>Aggressive inspection results in fewer violations.</p>
<p>LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.</p> <p>Amend your ordinance to provide the shortest time allowable for compliance and if possible, hear code violations once a week or every two weeks. Second offenders should be inspected regularly.</p>

Please use this page to report progress on each **tax related initiative** included in your Home Rule Application. Each tax related initiative must be listed on a separate page.

Initiative: 1% Sales Tax
Was this tax initiative a part of your original plan application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or a plan amendment <input type="checkbox"/> or N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
Has the ordinance(s) needed to implement this initiative been enacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, when was the ordinance enacted? December 15, 2015
If no, please describe challenges faced in enacting the related ordinance(s).
<p>REVENUES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting revenue amounts and revenue categories realized; revenue amounts and revenue categories reduced; net revenue gain; and, any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>The City has completed the third year under the 1% Sales Tax and received \$798,279.05. The calculated loss of B&O Tax revenue projected in year one has been offset by increased business volume and increased net costs in doing business. We are at a net gain now even though we reduced the B&O Tax rate from \$0.50 to \$0.40.</p>
<p>SUCCESSSES – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting projects, improvements, programming, etc. realized through the implementation of this revenue initiative and any metrics used to track performance.</p> <p>The 1% Sales Tax has provided funding for the City to address issues with failing infrastructure, upgrade of community parks and demolition of abandoned and dilapidated structures. We have managed to keep from allocating these funds to general operating expenses. As inflation takes hold, we will be able to these funds and use them for every day operations to defer increasing city fees.</p>
<p>LESSONS LEARNED – In the space below, please provide a brief narrative highlighting lessons learned during implementation of this revenue initiative that would benefit other municipalities.</p> <p>The support and guidance from other communities and the WV Tax Department made this a very easy process. It gave us useful information to help us plan public meetings about the 1% Tax. Talk to as many communities as you can about their successes and failures and update your community about where the money is being spent annually.</p>