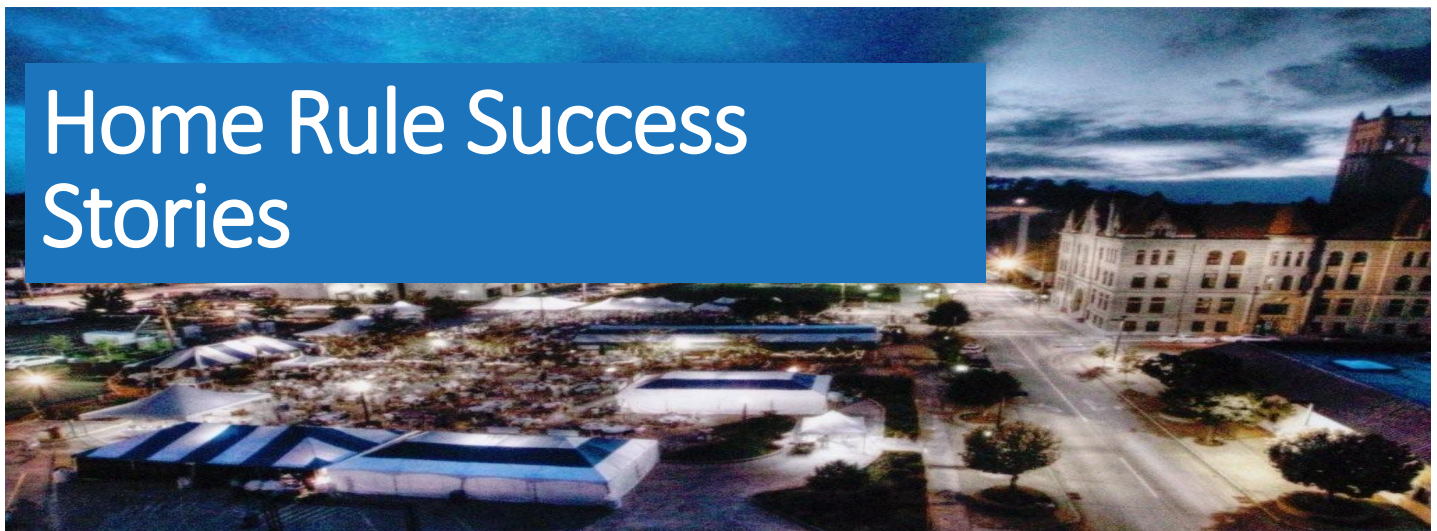


# Home Rule Success Stories



## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Several Home Rule Cities have used their ability to impose a Municipal Sales and Use Tax to fund major development projects.

The City of Clarksburg has renovated the Robinson Grand Theater, originally built in 1913, into the Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center. The Center offers a vibrant, diverse array of productions and programs that engage seniors, adults, teens, children, schools, and community organizations, adding to the quality of life for the citizens of Clarksburg. The estimated total economic impact of the Robinson Grand is

\$32 million over the next five years.

The City of South Charleston replaced a 55-year-old fire station with a modern facility that contains training facilities, administrative offices, and three bays for new fire equipment, also purchased with proceeds from their Municipal Sales and Use Tax.

The City of Charleston has renovated its aging Civic Center into the state-of-the-art Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center to attract larger conventions to provide an economic boost to the City and the region.



### *The West Virginia Municipal League Supports Home Rule Program Permanency*

In 2007, the West Virginia Legislature enacted the Home Rule Pilot Program as a tool for municipalities to develop new solutions to old problems. Over the past decade, participation in the Pilot Program has expanded to 34 municipalities, from Class I to Class IV, from across the State.

The West Virginia Municipal League is dedicated to working with the 2019 Legislature to make the Municipal Home Rule Pilot Program a permanent program, open for all West Virginia Municipalities to apply.

# MUNICIPAL PENSION LIABILITY

There have been no easy solutions for cities with professional fire and police departments in dealing with the requirements of pension funding. Many cities have dedicated some or all of the proceeds from their municipal sales and use tax to meet the required funding levels.

## Huntington

Fire:	2013 Assets - \$13,522,855	2017 Assets - 23,716,201
	2013 Funded Ratio - 13.56%	2017 Funded Ratio - 21.07%
Police:	2013 Assets - \$22,413,615	2017 Assets - \$33,533,797
	2013 Funded Ratio - 26.47%	2017 Funded Ratio - 34.52%

## Wheeling

Fire:	2013 Assets - \$14,874,436	2017 Assets - 24,682,410
	2013 Funded Ratio - 23.71%	2017 Funded Ratio - 34.86%
Police:	2013 Assets - \$16,270,894	2017 Assets - \$22,535,606
	2013 Funded Ratio - 33.49%	2017 Funded Ratio - 40.60%

## Charleston

Fire:	2013 Assets - \$11,271,569	2017 Assets - 17,716,222
	2013 Funded Ratio - 7.33%	2017 Funded Ratio - 9.62%
Police:	2013 Assets - \$13,439,815	2017 Assets - \$20,042,001
	2013 Funded Ratio - 9.05%	2017 Funded Ratio - 11.59%

## Parkersburg

Fire:	2013 Assets - \$10,389,150	2017 Assets - 14,870,359
	2013 Funded Ratio - 20.57%	2017 Funded Ratio - 25.12%
Police:	2013 Assets - \$9,541,490	2017 Assets - \$11,335,200
	2013 Funded Ratio - 20.83%	2017 Funded Ratio - 21.13%

***It's not just  
about taxes!***

*Non-tax initiatives  
through Home Rule  
have helped with:*

*Dilapidated Properties  
and Code Enforcement*

*Public Safety*

*Contracts/Partnerships*

*Sale of Property*

*Human Resources*

*Public Health*

***The real success of the Home Rule Pilot Program has been the ability of cities to form individual solutions to problems that may be unique to their communities.***

***All West Virginia municipalities deserve the ability to institute innovative solutions to develop, grow, and provide the best quality of life for their citizens.***

- 1. Remove the sunset date to establish a Permanent Program Retain the Home Rule Board***
- 2. Establish a participant funded legal and expense account for the HR Board***
- 3. Clarify prohibition on amendments that place federal dollars in jeopardy***
- 4. Allow the Board to accept a specified number of applications from any municipality (additional 4 Class IV per year)***
- 5. Prohibition on participating municipalities from passing ordinances contrary to certain laws governing the professional licensing or certification of employees.***