

## CHAPTER 331A

## QUALIFIED NEWSPAPERS

331A.04 Designation of a newspaper for official publications.

331A.12 Web site publication of local transportation RFP.

**331A.04 DESIGNATION OF A NEWSPAPER FOR OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS.***[For text of subs 1 to 5, see M.S.2002]*

Subd. 6. **Exception to designation priority.** (a) Notwithstanding subdivisions 1 to 3, the governing body of a local public corporation may designate any newspaper for publication of its official proceedings and public notices, if the following conditions are met:

- (1) the newspaper is a qualified medium of official and legal publication;
  - (2) the publisher of the newspaper furnishes a sworn statement, verified by a recognized independent circulation auditing agency, covering a period of at least one year ending no earlier than 60 days before designation of the newspaper, stating that the newspaper's circulation reaches not fewer than 75 percent of the households within the public corporation;
  - (3) the newspaper has provided regular coverage of the proceedings of the governing body of the local public corporation and will continue to do so; and
  - (4) the governing body votes unanimously to designate the newspaper.
- (b) If the circulation of a newspaper designated under this subdivision falls below 75 percent of the households within the public local corporation at any time within the term of its designation as official newspaper, its qualification to publish public notices for the local public corporation terminates.

**History:** 2003 c 59 s 1**331A.12 WEB SITE PUBLICATION OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION RFP.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The terms defined in this subdivision and section 331A.01 apply to this section.

(b) "Web site" means a specific, addressable location provided on a server connected to the Internet and hosting World Wide Web pages and other files that are generally accessible on the Internet all or most of the day.

Subd. 2. **Designation.** At the meeting of the governing body of the local public corporation at which the governing body must designate its official newspaper for the year, the governing body may designate in the same manner publication of transportation projects on the local public corporation's Web site. Publication on the Web site may be used in place of or in addition to any other required form of publication. Each year after designating publication on the Web site for transportation projects, the local public corporation must publish in a qualified newspaper in the jurisdiction and on the Web site, notice that the local public corporation will publish any advertisements for bids on its Web site.

Subd. 3. **Form, time for publication same.** A local public corporation that publishes on its Web site under this section must post the information in substantially the same format and for the same period of time as required for publication in an official newspaper or other print publication.

Subd. 4. **Record retention.** A local public corporation that publishes notice on its Web site under this section must ensure that a permanent record of publication is maintained in a form accessible by the public.

**History:** 1Sp2003 c 19 art 2 s 56