

2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
END OF SESSION REPORT
CITY OF LONGVIEW

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2018 SESSION OVERVIEW

- 60-day short legislative session: FINISHED ON TIME
- Primary objective: adopt supplemental operating, capital, & transportation budgets: ALL THREE BUDGETS ADOPTED
- Record number of bills introduced: 2,388
- Democrats in control of House & Senate
- November 2018 Elections

BUDGET SUMMARY

- February economic revenue forecast
 - \$1.2 billion of additional funds for the four-year budget outlook
- 2018 Operating Budget
 - \$935 million to provide a one-time property tax relief of .30 cents/\$1,000 assessed valuation in 2019
 - Funding for teacher salaries to respond to the *McCleary* court decision to fully fund education in 2018.
 - No new taxes (Capital Gains or Carbon)

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

★ Capital Budget Funding:

☐ R.A. Long Park

☐ Shay Pavilion

☐ Training Range

★ Housing Affordability and Availability

🚫 Nuisance Abatement Challenges

★ Municipal Landfill Exemption

★ No preemptions or unfunded mandates

AWC Legislative Priorities

CAPITAL BUDGET FUNDING

2017-2019 Capital Budget

- ☐ R.A. Long Park
- ☐ Shay Pavilion
- ☐ Training Range

2018 Supplemental Capital Budget

- ☐ Parkview Apartments

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY & AVAILABILITY

- House Bill 1570 – Document Recording Fee passes Legislature
- 2017 Session
 - Extended sunset on \$40 document recording fee to 2023.
- 2018 Session
 - Increases the \$40 document recording fee to \$62.
 - Makes the fee permanent.
 - Ten dollars of the fee is distributed to counties and the remainder is distributed through a statewide formula already in statute.
 - The statutory formula allocates approximately 60% to counties to local homeless housing programs, and approximately 40% to the state for the Home Security Fund, the administration of a statewide homeless plan, and private rental housing vouchers.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT CHALLENGES

- House Bill 2057 passes the Legislature after multi-year effort!
- A city can now determine if a home is: 1) abandoned, 2) mid-foreclosure, 3) and a nuisance.
 - YES? → financial institution foreclosing on the property may access the home to abate the nuisance and secure the property
- If financial institution doesn't abate the property, a city can conduct a nuisance abatement action
 - City can recover its costs by placing an unlimited, first-priority lien on the property

MUNICIPAL LANDFILL EXEMPTION

- Progress on education and preparation for future opportunities
- No vehicle for the change in 2018 Legislative Session
- Potential change in political climate could impact success

NO PREEMPTIONS OR UNFUNDED MANDATES

2018 was a session of playing defense – Multiple bad bills

- Wrongful Death
- Occupational Diseases
- Post Traumatic Stress Disease
- Voting Rights Act

AWC PRIORITIES

- **Strengthen city tools to address housing conditions in our communities:**
 - HB 2437: Counties receive a .03 credit against the state sales tax to bond for affordable housing; local match required
 - HB 1570: Increases the \$40 document recording fee to \$62 and makes it permanent.
 - HB 2057: Tools to address abandoned, foreclosed, & nuisance homes
- **Enhance Economic Development Tools**
- **Preserve State-Shared Revenues & BLEA Funding**
 - All state-shared revenues protected; increase in marijuana revenue
 - Two additional classes for BLEA funded

WHAT'S NEXT?

- SAY THANK YOU!
- Develop interim plans to prepare for the 2019-21 legislative biennium
- Watch November 2018 elections:
 - Entire House/half of the Senate up for re-election
 - Very narrow majorities
- October/November – Begin reaching out to legislators for 2019 session

QUESTIONS?

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