

CITY OF LONGVIEW

2018 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The City of Longview is very appreciative of the historic partnership between the City and the State of Washington.

We are most grateful for a highly successful 2017 Legislative Session. Looking forward, we call upon our legislative delegation to support some specific funding requests and policy issues that will enable us to meet the ongoing challenges we face in providing critical infrastructure and maintaining the quality of life and quality of place our citizens and business community expect.

For more information

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Agenda Summarized



Passage of Capital Budget, including funding for local community projects, the Heritage Grant Program, and the Housing Trust Fund

Increase efforts to address housing availability and affordability, reduce homelessness and enhance mental health services

Address nuisance abatement challenges associated with vacant and abandoned foreclosed properties

Industrial Way/Oregon Way (SR432/433) intersection project

Exemption of municipal landfills from greenhouse gas regulations

No preemptions and unfunded mandates

Review of cost drivers

Support 2018 priorities of the Association of Washington Cities

Longview City Council

*Don Jensen, Mayor
Mike Wallin, Mayor Pro-Tem
Ken Botero
Chet Makinster
MaryAlice Wallis
Steve Moon
Scott Vydra*

Legislative Agenda



Passage of Capital Budget, including funding for local community projects, the Heritage Grant Program, and the Housing Trust Fund.

- R.A. Long Park Plaza Reconstruction project, \$288,000 request for reconstruction of R.A. Long Park. The City has already spent \$100,000, has committed an additional \$300,000 in City funding, and has received a commitment of \$75,000 from private sources.
- Training Range: \$263,000 request to construct a law enforcement training shooting range to serve jurisdictions throughout the region.
- Shay Locomotive Plaza: \$60,000, included within the Heritage Grant program.
- The Housing Trust Fund is the State's preeminent financial program for helping to build and preserve affordable housing for low-income and special needs populations.



Increase efforts to address housing availability and affordability, reduce homelessness and enhance mental health services.

The City is seeking a variety of local option tools to address the problems of their specific local circumstances:

- Construction sales tax reimbursement pilot program to attract new multi-family housing in cities outside of our urban core;
- Ability to mitigate the impacts of abandoned and bank-owned foreclosed homes; and
- Additional flexibility with existing tools such as making the optional sales tax authority for affordable housing a councilmanic decision; and
- New revenue tools, such as REET 3, affordable housing impact fees, and authority for investment of utility reserves.



Address nuisance abatement

challenges associated with vacant and abandoned foreclosed properties. The City supports efforts like SB 5797/HB 2057 to address the health, safety and others problems associated with abandoned and vacant properties.



Industrial Way/Oregon Way (SR 432/433) intersection project funding.

The City requests an accelerated funding schedule for this project if the Legislature takes up potential changes to the "Connecting Washington" transportation program. If not, the City is still eager to provide information about the important role this project will play not only in facilitating future economic development, but also in supporting existing industry and trade in this corridor that benefits the entire state.



Exemption of municipal landfills from greenhouse gas regulations. The City supports exempting landfills from the State's Clean Air Rule, as they are exempt from other domestic and international carbon reduction and greenhouse gas cap-and-trade programs.



No preemptions and unfunded mandates. Oppose any preemptions of local control or the imposition of unfunded or underfunded state mandates



Review of cost drivers. The City supports a comprehensive review of State-imposed cost drivers like mandatory binding arbitration.



Support 2018 priorities of the Association of Washington Cities. The City also generally supports the legislative priorities of the Association of Washington Cities, including:

- Preserving state-shared revenues and increasing law enforcement training funds,
- Enhance economic development tools and programs that foster business development in cities,
- Direct funds to mental health, chemical dependency, and social service safety net programs; and
- Strengthen city tools to address housing conditions and reduce homelessness in our communities.

