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# **Policy Addressing Memorials In Public Right of Way**

**Longview City Council Workshop  
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Manuel Abarca, Traffic Engineer

## **Policy Addressing Memorials in Public Right of Way**

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### **Why we need a policy -**

- **Helps staff communicate a uniform message to grieving parties**
- **Reinforces the City's control over what takes place in the right of way.**
- **Complaints have been received regarding this issue.**

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## Recent Memorials

- Pacific Way and Country Club Drive
- Ocean Beach Highway and 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- SR 432 and Memorial Park Drive



SR 432 at  
Memorial Park Dr.

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## For Council Consideration

- **Adopt a policy prohibiting memorials in the right of way**
  - Policy Option 1
- **Adopt a policy allowing memorials in the right of way under certain conditions.**
  - Policy Option 2

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### **Option 1 - Policy prohibiting memorials**

- **Memorials create a visual distraction**
- **Memorials attract family and friends to stop and congregate next to traffic**
- **Memorials put the public and grieving parties at risk**
- **If allowed, control of memorial objects is limited due to free speech rights**

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## **Option 2 - Policy allowing memorials**

- **City wants to deal sensitively with grieving parties**
- **Memorials appear when tragic deaths occur in the right of way**
- **Memorial policy provides conditions to limit the risk to the public, grieving parties, and the City**
- **Memorial policy will limit the time the memorial can be in place to 90 days from the date memorial objects are first placed in the right of way.**
- **Memorial policy will allow the City to remove memorial objects for operations, maintenance, and safety reasons**

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## Discussion