



# City of Longview

1525 Broadway  
Longview, WA 98632  
www.ci.longview.wa.us

## Agenda - Special Meeting City Council

*Mayor Don Jensen  
Council Member Ken Botero  
Council Member Tom Hutchinson  
Council Member Chet Makinster  
Mayor Pro Tem Mary Jane Melink  
Council Member Steve Moon  
Council Member Michael Wallin*

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Thursday, July 9, 2015

6:00PM

2nd Floor, City Hall

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**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, in accordance with RCW Chapter 42.30, that the City Council of the City of Longview, Washington, will conduct a workshop session in the Longview City Hall Training Room, 1525 Broadway, Longview, on Thursday, July 9th, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. The topics of discussion follow. Final disposition shall be taken on no other matter.

The City Hall is accessible for persons with disabilities. Special equipment to assist the hearing impaired is also available. Please contact the City Executive Offices at 360.442.5004 48 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend the meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**
4. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

[15-3908](#)

**POTENTIAL THREE RIVERS REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY  
GOVERNANCE CHANGE**

**COUNCIL INITIATIVES ADDRESSED:**

Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

**CITY ATTORNEY REVIEW: N/A**

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

In 1972, the City of Longview, Cowlitz County, City of Kelso, and Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District, entered into a contract to provide regional sewer treatment services, and created the Cowlitz Sewer Operating Board to manage the treatment operations. Since 1972, the contract has been amended a number of times and the name was changed to the Three Rivers Regional

Wastewater Authority (TRRWA). The TRRWA currently operates under the authority of the 2005 Revised and Restated Interlocal Agreement Among City of Kelso, City of Longview, Beacon Hill Sewer District, and Cowlitz County For Wastewater Treatment & Disposal.

The TRRWA has historically operated as an independent entity and governing board, although there have been constraints on its ability to issue debt and its purchasing authority. Recently, the governance structure, legal authority, and independence of the TRRWA have been questioned. Because the TRRWA was created by interlocal agreement under RCW Chapter 39.34, opinions have been expressed that the TRRWA is not a municipality or corporation of the state, and must be considered to be a department of Cowlitz County. If the TRRWA is not independent and is instead a part of Cowlitz County, a number of issues are raised that seriously complicate TRRWA operations.

Similar issues arose previously for other joint operating agencies formed by interlocal agreement, and in 2011, the state legislature created RCW Chapter 39.106 authorizing a new type of governmental municipal corporation known as a joint municipal utility services authority. RCW Chapter 39.106 allows municipalities and districts to create wholesale utility service providers that are legally separate from each of the member entities.

After considering the issues and options regarding the status of the TRRWA, the TRRWA board decided to begin the process to convert the TRRWA to a joint municipal utility services authority. Information will be provided during the workshop regarding some of the issues and the process to form an authority under RCW Chapter 39.106.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Information and discussion only.

[15-3909](#)

**SCHOOL ZONE IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE**

**COUNCIL INITIATIVE ADDRESSED:**

Improve Transportation Systems

**CITY ATTORNEY REVIEW: N/A**

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

Council directed staff to install upgrades to all school zones in the city and ensure consistency between all school zones. However, as detailed plans for each zone are being developed, staff would like Council to reconsider and clarify the need for each school zone regulatory sign assembly to be identical. Staff recommends two different installations for school speed zone assemblies: one assembly for arterials and collectors, and a different assembly for local streets. Arterial and collector streets will have solar powered assemblies consisting of LED flashers, school speed limit signs, and speed feedback displays. Local streets will have solar powered assemblies consisting of LED flashers and school speed limit sign; the speed feedback display will be omitted on local streets.

Staff will present recommended improvements for each school zone, including

material, labor and equipment cost estimates, and a tentative schedule for implementing the improvements. Attached for your review is a graphic depicting the recommended St. Helens Elementary school zones to highlight the arterial street and local street school zone speed sign assembly locations. Similar graphics will be provided at the workshop for each school zone. Staff will request direction from Council regarding installation of two types of school zone speed assemblies.

At the May 24, 2015 joint workshop with the Longview School District Board, members of the board requested, and Council directed staff to evaluate safe walking routes to schools. Staff would like clarification on the scope and expected outcome of this evaluation.

Additionally, staff will also discuss the status of the in-ground warning lights at the pedestrian crossing at 15th Avenue and Commerce Avenue near Lower Columbia College. As staff has experienced at all of the City's installations of in-ground warning lights, the system is difficult and costly to maintain, with lights failing, wiring short-circuiting, and parts difficult to acquire. Recent heat expansion of the concrete street panels caused further damage and repairing the existing in-ground lighting is no longer an option - it must be replaced. Staff recommends against replacing the in-ground lighting, and instead will recommend installation of additional above ground warning lights.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Direction to staff.

**Attachments:** [St Helens School Zone Graphic](#)

**5. ADJOURNMENT**