

CITY OF LONGVIEW

2017-2018 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

DRAFT

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

A number of State initiatives directly benefit Longview and help us to meet the challenges we face. Looking forward, we call upon our legislative delegation to support a number of requests that will further enable us to meet the growing challenges we face in providing quality infrastructure, complying with state and federal mandates, and keeping pace with the demands for services.

For more information

David Campbell, City Manager
360.442.5002
david.campbell@ci.longview.wa.us

Mark. O. Brown, Lobbyist
360.790.4427 markobrown@comcast.net

Jennifer Ziegler, Lobbyist
360.790.6089 jennifer.ziegler@comcast.net

Priorities Summarized

1	Community project funding
2	Transitional housing notices
3	Storage of tenant's property
4	Public Facilities District sales tax credit extension
5	Regional Mobility Grant funding
6	Heritage Grant Funding
7	Criminal Justice Training Center funding
8	Industrial Way/Oregon Way (SR432/433) intersection project
9	Public Works Assistant Account "reform"
10	Preemptions and unfunded mandates
11	Review cost drivers
12	Association of Washington Cities priorities

Longview City Council

Don Jensen, Mayor
Mike Wallin, Mayor Pro-Tem
Ken Botero
Chet Makinster
Mary Jane Melink
Steve Moon
Scott Vydra



Legislative Priorities

1

Community project funding. Seeking direct state financial support through the Capital Budget for the following priority local projects:

- R.A. Long Park Plaza Reconstruction project, \$288,000 request for reconstruction of the plaza in the center of R.A. Long Park. This project will include a fountain in the center of the plaza and other site improvements. The City has already spent \$100,000, will provide an additional \$300,000 in funding, and is seeking \$75,000 or more from private sources.
- Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts Enhancement project, \$500,000 request for air conditioning and other improvements to the Theatre's HVAC system. This will allow for year-round use.
- Training Range Improvements, \$263,000 request for improvements to construct a law enforcement training shooting range to serve jurisdictions throughout the region.
- Downtown Streetscape Improvements, \$356,000 request to help pay for the final portion of a multi-year, three-phase streetscape improvement project in downtown Longview. Total project costs for the final portion over \$1 million.

2

Transitional housing notices. Provide more time under RCW 72.09.285 for local governments to respond (with community impact statements) to Department of Corrections notices about potential new transitional housing locations.

3

Storage of tenant's property. Eliminate the provision in RCW 59.18.132 that allows landlords to place a tenant's property on public property.

4

Public Facilities District sales tax credit extension. The City is supporting efforts of the Washington State Public Facilities Districts to extend by 15 years the current state sales tax credit. This will allow improvements at both the Columbia Theatre and the Cowlitz Regional Conference Center.

5

Regional Mobility Grant funding. The City supports adequate funding in the next Transportation Budget to insure that the RiversCities Transit regional mobility grant application for new buses and transit center construction will be funded.

6

Heritage Grant funding. The City supports adequate funding in the next Capital Budget to ensure that the \$60,000 Shay Locomotive Plaza Heritage grant will be funded.

7

Criminal Justice Training Center funding. The City of Longview will be hiring new law enforcement personnel who will need to attend the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission Basic Law Enforcement Academy. We support the \$2.8 million supplement operating budget request by the CJTC to add eight additional classes to their biennial curriculum.

8

Industrial Way/Oregon Way (SR 432/433) intersection project funding. The City is supporting a joint request among local project partners to accelerate IWOW project funding provided in the Connecting Washington package to ensure that the project can move forward sooner and that there are no funding gaps that would compromise non-stop project completion.

9

Public Works Assistance Account reform. The City is supporting efforts to protect the fund balance in the PWAA, to authorize loans to be issued in the coming biennium, to provide assistance to jurisdictions that have challenges getting into the private loan market, and convening a task force to examine the PWAA program and other state infrastructure and economic development programs to be bring recommendations forward at the end of 2018.

10

Preemptions and unfunded mandates. The City is strongly opposed to any preemptions of local control and the imposition of unfunded and underfunded mandates.

11

Review cost drivers. The City supports a comprehensive review of state-imposed cost drivers like mandatory binding arbitration and prevailing wage laws.

12

Association of Washington Cities priorities. The City also supports the top legislative priorities of the Association of Washington Cities.

