



City of Longview 2019 Legislative Session

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Overview

- The goal for tonight's discussion:
 - Overview of what to expect in the 2019 legislative session
 - Discuss possible ideas for the City's 2019 legislative agenda
 - Outline next steps for finalizing the legislative agenda, and beginning our advocacy

2019 Legislative Session: Political Climate

- November 2018 Elections:
 - August primary results indicate that the majority of seats in the State Senate and House of Representatives will be held by Democrats. The November election will determine how many seats they have
 - Multiple new legislators – 16 open seat races
 - 3 initiatives qualified for the ballot... potentially:
 - Gun control – court ruling ordered for this initiative to be taken off the ballot
 - Ruling has been appealed and will head to State Supreme Court
 - Preemption on grocery/bottled water sales tax
 - Carbon tax proposal

2019 Legislative Session: The Basics

- First year of the two-year legislative biennium
- Scheduled to last 105-days
- Focus is on developing biennial Operating, Capital, and Transportation Budgets
 - Operating: Many demands. Despite increase in state revenue, likely a “tight” budget
 - Capital: Likely a robust budget, with the largest demands coming from K-12 construction and mental health facilities
 - Transportation: \$200 million shortfall, although there is some discussion of a “mini package”
- Thousands of bills introduced; hundreds that will impact city business

Emerging “HOT” Topics

- Tax structure – carbon tax initiative response? Capital gains tax?
- Mental health funding (in response to *Trueblood* decision)
- Affordable housing (HB 2437, Condominium Liability Act, density requirements)
- Transportation (discussion of “mini package” and authorization of tolling on key corridors)
- Rural broadband/small cell network facilities

Developing a Successful Legislative Agenda

A successful legislative agenda is:

- Aligned with the state **biennium**
- **Focused**
- Part of a broader **story** or theme
- **Supported** locally

Developing a Successful Funding Request

- Capital funding requests:
 - Community support
 - Locally funded
 - State nexus
 - Contribute to an important state goal (such as job creation)
- Transportation funding requests:
 - State nexus
 - Safety concerns
 - Economic development
 - Regional support

Begin Preparing NOW for January

- September: State agencies submit budget proposals to the Governor's Office
- November: Election results!
- December: Governor releases proposed budgets
- January: Session begins on the 14th

Questions?

