

# 2024 December Legislative Agenda

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# Presentation Objectives

- **Review Current 2024  
Legislative Agenda**
- **Endorse/Support Affiliate  
Agenda**
- **Review Process Moving  
Forward**

# 2024 Transportation Budget Priorities



## **I-5 Bridge Replacement:**

- The IBR has identified \$137 million from Washington during the 2023-2025 biennium as necessary funds to advance this project. The City urges the Legislature to allocate those funds.

## **Garrison Sidewalk Funding:**

- Advance existing funding to the 2025-2026 biennium ensures that we can fully complete this much needed improvement in the next two years.



# 2024 Homeless Response Support



- As cities continue to assume increased responsibility for responding to the homelessness crisis in the state, the City supports the creation of additional tools for the express purpose of providing direct homelessness response.
- The City also recognizes the intersection between childcare availability and homelessness and encourages further efforts to address the lack of affordable and accessible childcare across the state.

# Housing Availability and Affordability



- The City applauds the adoption of HB 1110 and encourages the expansion of its requirements into UGAs adjacent to covered jurisdictions.
- The City was supportive of condominium reform efforts and encourages further expansion of liability protections.
- The City would like to see an expansion of the Multi- Family Tax Exemption to cover projects of two units or greater from the current minimum of four units.



## **Comprehensive Plan Extension**

- Actions taken last legislative session to require GMA cities to include housing and climate elements to their comprehensive plan updates are admirable goals but have increased the complexity of the planning process.
- To allow jurisdictions adequate time to appropriately evaluate and integrate these new planning element requirements, we are requesting a six-month extension.

## **Property Tax Cap**

- Support changes to the existing 1% property tax cap to allow for factoring in both population growth and inflation.

## **Annexations**

- Believe that annexation laws should encourage the incorporation of urban areas designated under the GMA.
- Request an analysis of extraterritorial zoning within the UGA by GMA cities or similar tools.

# 2024 Climate Policy Direction



## **Climate Planning and Implementation:**

- Request that additional funding be made available to local jurisdictions with adopted climate action plans to support local efforts towards achieving reduced emissions.

## **Climate Incentives:**

- Support policies that would incentivize property owners, consumers, and businesses to move towards lower carbon solutions.

## **Product Stewardship:**

- Support a statewide systematic approach to recycling that ensures those who manufacture, design, consume or sell products are also responsible for reducing impacts.



# Capital Budget Priorities

## Regional Training Academy

- The City is seeking **\$3.5 million** in planning dollars to the Criminal Justice Training Commission and Legislative direction that those funds should be used to help fully develop the vision for the permanent Southwest Washington Regional Training Academy Campus.

## Waterfront Gateway Plaza

- Building upon the highly successful waterfront redevelopment, the City is transforming an adjacent 6.4 acres of city-owned, vacant land in downtown Vancouver into the Waterfront Gateway district. The City is seeking **\$2 million** to leverage general fund dollars to complete the project.



# Association of Washington Cities' Top Priorities

**Public Safety – Officer Recruitment and Retention:** Additional funding tools to support recruitment and retention, as well as continue to invest in regional training academies.

**Infrastructure Investments:** Local preservation and maintenance, climate commitment act funding for cities, increased funding for the broadband office and other state infrastructure programs.

**Behavioral Health:** support greater access to the entire continuum of services, improve workforce, and provide additional funding for treatment center.

**Revise the Arbitrary Property Tax Cap:** Replace the 1% cap with an inflation measure up to 3 %.

# Next Steps

## **This is a “Living” Document:**

- Over the course of the Legislative session input will be needed on key issues.

## **Weekly Reports:**

- Updates on Legislation and bill status.

## **January 24 & 25:**

- AWC Action Days.

## **Direct Participation:**

- Bill Hearings, Email Blasts.



# Thank You

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