

**City of Lake Forest Park**  
**State Legislative Agenda 2023-24**  
Revised for the 2024 Session



**Top Priorities**

**Lyon Creek Fish Barrier Removal**

The City is grateful for the state's allocation of \$1.8 million for the Lyon Creek Culvert near State Route 104. The project is now fully funded and will proceed in coordination with the replacement of the state-owned culvert on SR 104. Completion of this project, anticipated for 2025, will total 8 replaced culverts along Lyon Creek. The City is thrilled with this progress and intends to continue working upstream to remove all barriers for salmon to access Lake Ballinger.

**State Route 104 Investments**

State Route 104 runs through the heart of Lake Forest Park. It is a two-lane highway that carries roughly 26,000 vehicles per day and increasingly more commercial freight. SR 104 is not only in poor condition but lacks safety measures that would increase the use of multimodal transportation options. The state is responsible for the **maintenance** and improvement of this facility. WSDOT has indicated an overlay is scheduled for 2027. The City is working with WSDOT to request the advancement of that timeline and incorporation of **complete streets principles** in any improvements. Additionally, the City has taken the initiative to facilitate construction of a **roundabout at 40<sup>th</sup> Place NE** where an existing four-legged, skewed intersection has several safety and traffic challenges. The design is nearing completion and there is a funding gap of \$1.5M for construction.

**City Financial Challenges**

The 1% cap on property tax revenue has created an unsustainable fiscal structure for cities. Rising insurance rates are adding to this pressure. LFP's liability premiums have gone up 21% over the last year. Bedroom communities like LFP are acutely impacted by this limitation and will not be able to continue providing current levels of municipal services to residents without a change, either through adjustment of the cap or other revenue tools.

**Behavioral Health Care System Needs**

LFP is a member of the Regional Crisis Response (RCR) agency which provides co-responder services to individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis. The City supports sustainable funding for co-responder services, crisis stabilization centers in all areas of the state and investment in behavioral health facilities for individuals in need of longer-term care.

**Other Legislative Priorities**

**City Tools & Resources:** LFP supports the expansion of city tools and resources including incentives for development of affordable housing at the 30-50% AMI range, protection of the Public Works Trust Fund, and new revenue options for cities.

**Recyclable Materials & Solid Waste:** LFP is a leader in recycling. As a city, we have a waste diversion rate of 70%. The City supports product stewardship programs that divert products from the waste stream.

*Lake Forest Park supports those elements of the Association of Washington Cities' Legislative Agenda and Sound Cities Association Agenda that best serve the interests of the City.*