

City of McCleary  
**STAFF REPORT**



<b>To:</b>	Mayor Miller and City Councilmembers
<b>From:</b>	Chad Bedlington, Director of Public Works
<b>Date:</b>	August 14, 2024
<b>Department:</b>	Public Works Administration

**Updates:**

Clean Energy Transformation Audit

Every four years the city is required to be audited for its compliance with the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA). The Audit this year will be reviewing three areas:

- Greenhouse gas content calculation, 2020-2021
- Energy Assistance to low-income households, 2019-2020
- Clean energy implementation plan development, 2022-2025

Work is still continuing with the State Auditors Office to address questions regarding the city's historic reporting. The audit is nearing completion.

Cost Evaluation of Opening Beerbower Park to Allow On-leash Dogs:

It was recently requested by community members to have City Staff evaluate the costs associated with opening Beerbower park to allow on-leash dogs. Under the existing City Code, the Public Works Director has the discretion to alter the park rules as needed to consider this change in use, with some minor exceptions.

Initial costs to make this alteration to allowances in the park is minimal. Some basic signage with updated park rules, coupled with some doggy-waste stations would be all the investment needed to start the campaign. Estimated costs to purchase and install signage is under \$1000 with installation completed by Public Works staff. This would include posting of three dog waste stations with poles and signage, and updating the park rules signage.

FCS Group Rate Review

City staff continue to work with FCS Group on the final report for the rate review for water, sewer, stormwater, and light and power utilities. Staff met with FCS Group on August 8<sup>th</sup> to also discuss Water Rate Design. This is being done to evaluate redistribution of how water consumption is billed, and to also provide a lower rate to low volume consumers in the future. Staff

anticipates a presentation of the final report to be completed at the August 28<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Grays Harbor Conservation District Annexation

Included in tonight’s packet is a petition to annex the City of McCleary into the Grays Harbor Conservation District (GHCD). If approved, this partnership will open future opportunities to grant funded programs administered by GHCD that beneficially affect watersheds within the city limits. Of note, GHCD has been a great partner to work with on a recent Department of Ecology grant application that they supported.

IT Update

Progress toward completing the necessary improvements to our data management and security have been moving along slowly. We recently had to receive approval from ACCESS (Law Enforcement Access approver) to get clearance for Right!System employees to work on the Police side of the system. This took several weeks and caused some minor delays in getting a completion date set for Police IT support. It has been a challenging handoff of the project to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor when we had made so much progress in using our lower-cost in-house expertise. Further discussion on delivering IT services will be necessary during the budgetary process.

Update: Grant Pursuits

Below is a list of current grants that have either been submitted or are being pursued this year by City staff. This list will be updated monthly to keep the community and Council informed of progress. It is not to be considered comprehensive as additional opportunities may materialize and will be added to the list:

<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Proposed Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Private	Elison Foundation	Food Bank Expansion	Submitted
State	Department of Natural Resources	Acquisition of Fire Dept. command vehicle and additional equipment needs	Submitted
Private	Quadra Tech	ROW beautification	In Progress
Private	City Foundation, Community progress makers	Food Bank new construction and downtown infrastructure	Pending
Private	Blue Diamond	New food bank to allow for expansion of existing	Pending

		community commercial grade kitchen	
State	Dept of Ecology	On-going aquifer monitoring	Submitted
State	Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO), Youth Athletic Facilities	New Playground Improvements near Summit Place	In Progress. Grant Application presentations during the week of Aug 19 <sup>th</sup> .
State	Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO), Youth Athletic Facilities	Upgrades to Beerbower park athletic facilities	In Progress. Grant Application presentations during the week of Aug 19 <sup>th</sup> .
State	Department of Commerce – Decarbonization Grant	Solar grant to support power independence and resiliency, and potentially offset operating costs	<b>Awarded</b>
State	WSDOT Safe Routes to Schools	Pursuit of sidewalk and ADA crossing improvements around McCleary Elementary School	Submitted
State	Transportation Improvement Board (TIB)	Involves several potential street segments. Pursuing chip seal program funding.	Submitted
State	Department of Commerce -Paper to Digital Grant	Funding to pursue replacement and more efficiency in our data management, permitting, and financial software.	Pending

West Maple Street Sidewalk Project

This project is currently in design with an anticipated construction started date in the Fall of 2024. Preliminary design review with the engineer is planned for August 19<sup>th</sup>.