



MEDINA, WASHINGTON

AGENDA BILL

January 27, 2025

Subject: Medina Legislative Priorities Agenda

Category: City Business

Staff Contact: Stephen R. Burns, City Manager

Summary

Legislative priorities refer to the specific issues and policies that the Council supports during a legislative session. The Legislative Priorities Agenda will support the goals and vision of the Council and the community they represent. The Medina Council is being asked to compile a list of legislative priorities for the upcoming session, enabling individual Council members to publicly express their positions on matters that are important to the community. For example, in 2024, 27 cities across Washington state submitted their city legislative agendas to the Association of Washington Cities.

Association of Washington Cities

The AWC Legislative Priorities for 2025 include: 1) Fiscal Sustainability, 2) Behavioral Health Treatment Capacity, 3) Housing Supply, 4) Public Safety, and 5) Infrastructure Investment.

Cities and towns are home to 65% of Washington's residents, drive the state's economy, and provide the most accessible form of government. The success of our cities and towns depends on adequate resources and community-based decision-making to best meet the unique needs of our communities.

Washington's 281 cities call on the Legislature to collaborate with us and take action on these critical priorities:

AWC Legislative Process Guidance

AWC provided the following tips on how to develop a city's legislative agenda:

- *Keep it short and simple – one page only.*
- *Add credibility by having your city council adopt it before session.*
- *Include capital needs along with policy priorities.*
- *Incorporate [AWC's Legislative Priorities](#) into your agenda.*
- *Make it public. Post it on your city's website, put it in your newsletters, and insert it into utility bills.*
- *Work with your local media for coverage.*

Sound View Strategies

Sound View Strategies has been hired by the City of Medina to provide legislative support and guidance. In discussion with Kelly Evans and Jennifer Ziegler of Sound View, they have provided the following topics for the Medina Council to consider for our Legislative Priority Agenda.

1. Washington State Housing Legislation Mandates
2. WSDOT Partnership
3. Advocate for budget reforms

Medina Legislative Priorities Process

At the January 27, 2025, Council will review and discuss the attached draft Medina Legislative Priorities Agenda.

Medina Legislative Priorities” meets and supports Council’s priorities 1 and 3.

Council Priorities:

- 1. Financial Stability and Accountability**
2. Quality Infrastructure
- 3. Efficient and Effective Government**
4. Public Safety and Health
5. Neighborhood Character and Community Building

Attachments:

1. DRAFT Medina Legislative Priorities
2. AWC Legislative Priorities

Budget/Fiscal Impact: *Consultant Fees*

Recommendation: Discussion and direction.

City Manager Approval: 

Proposed Council Motion: N/A

Time Estimate: 30 minutes