

# Government Affairs and Lobbying Services Discussion

City Council | February 12, 2024



# The Ask

Staff is looking for direction from the City Council on the scope of services desired for government affairs and lobbying.



# Background

- Tualatin is a member of the League of Oregon Cities, Metropolitan Mayors Consortium, and National League of Cities
  - Advocacy on behalf of cities, but not specific to Tualatin
- City Council members and City staff submit funding requests, track legislative issues, and advocate when capacity exists
- \$100,000 budgeted in FY 2023-2024 budget for government affairs and lobbying services

## **Other Wheels (we don't need to recreate the wheel)**

- Reviewed materials and talked with staff from Wilsonville, Happy Valley, and Tigard
- Various models
  - Dedicated City staff position(s) (Portland)
  - Responsibility shared by multiple City staff (Lake Oswego, Tualatin)
  - Hired lobbyist or lobbying firm (Wilsonville, Happy Valley, Tigard)

# Possible Services

1

# Develop Legislative Priorities

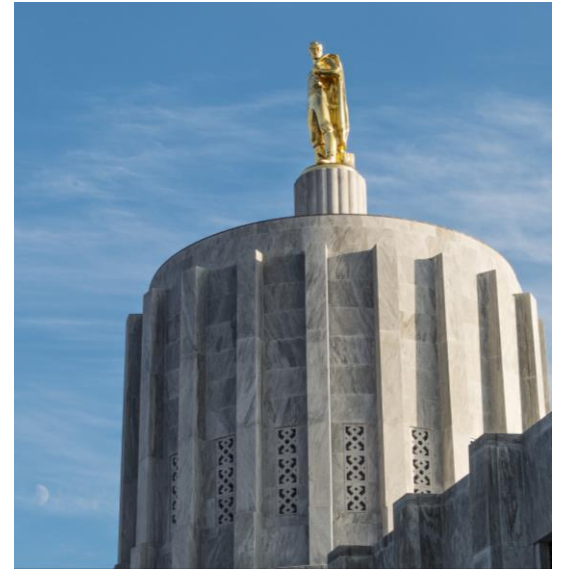
- State and/or Federal
- Adopted annually or every two years
- Can be general or specific

2

## Build Relationships

### State

- Legislative Representatives (Oregon Senator Rob Wagner and Oregon House Representative Jules Walters)
- Legislative staff
- State Agency staff



### Federal

- Congressional Representatives (US Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden, US Representative Andrea Salinas)
- Congressional staff
- Federal Agency staff



3

## **Facilitate Development of Project Funding Asks**

- State and/or Federal
- Provide expert advice on funding processes (state Christmas tree bill, federal earmarks, grants, etc.)
- Provide advice on funding proposals based on knowledge of legislator priorities and other “inside baseball”
- Advocate for funding proposals to appropriate parties



# 4

## Bill and Issue Tracking

- State and/or Federal
- During and outside of legislative session
- Examples: Tolling, Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities, Recreational Immunity, Paid Leave Oregon, etc.



# 5

## **Advocate for Legislative Priorities**

- State and/or Federal
- Coordinate City written and oral testimony at legislative hearings
- Develop talking points for City Council and staff
- Facilitate participation in League of Oregon Cities and/or National League of Cities events (ex. LOC's City Day at the Capitol and NLC's Congressional Cities Conference)

# 6

## Communicate Progress

- State and/or Federal
- Range (Examples)
  - Light: Annual Report
  - Medium: Update before/after session
  - Heavy: Update before/after session and periodically

# Service Summary

## State

- 1 Develop Legislative Priorities
- 2 Build Relationships
- 3 Facilitate Development of Project Funding Asks
- 4 Bill and Issue Tracking
- 5 Advocate for Legislative Priorities
- 6 Communicate Progress

## Federal

- 1 Develop Legislative Priorities
- 2 Build Relationships
- 3 Facilitate Development of Project Funding Asks
- 4 Bill and Issue Tracking
- 5 Advocate for Legislative Priorities
- 6 Communicate Progress

# Next Steps

- **February 21:** Issue Request for Proposals (RFP)
- **February 28:** Pre-Proposal Meeting
- **March 20:** RFP Closes
- **March 21 – 29:** Review Committee Scores Proposals (Committee includes Mayor Frank Bubenik, City Manager Sherilyn Lombos, and Deputy City Manager Megan George)
- **April 1 – 5:** Interviews
- **April 15:** Award contract