



2025 Legislative Agenda

Federal

65th/Borland/Sagert Transportation Improvements Project - \$3 Million

The City seeks funding to implement transportation improvements to the intersections of SW 65th Avenue with SW Borland Road and SW Sagert Street to improve traffic flow, and pedestrian and cyclist safety. These roads are important links in Tualatin's transportation system, serving as major and minor arterials. Legacy Meridian Hospital, Atfalati Park, and several multi-family housing complexes border the project area. Improvements include a new northbound right turn lane at SW Borland Road.

Increase Funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Tualatin relies on CDBG funds to financially support community-based projects that would otherwise not be feasible. In the recent past, Tualatin received public facilities funds for repairs and updates to the Juanita Pohl Center (Tualatin's well-loved and only senior center), as well as infrastructure funds to replace sidewalks and construct ADA compliant curb ramps in low-income neighborhoods. Funding of the CDBG Program has not kept up with population growth in Washington County or with inflation, resulting in a significant decrease in funding per capita. The City's funding comes as a sub-award from Washington County, who received \$1,987,614 in Fiscal Year 2024 when the CDBG Program was funded at \$3.3 billion nationwide.

Continue Funding for Community Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program

In August 2024, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced that Tualatin would receive \$15 million in funding to bring publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure to approximately 125 unique sites across 17 different cities in the region. By bringing charging infrastructure to low and moderate-income residents, we help to avoid a regional "charging divide" that prevents historically underserved communities from accessing EVs. This investment would not be possible without the CFI Program. The CFI Program was created by Congress as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which will expire absent reauthorization in September 2026, during the next Congress.

Continue Funding for Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) Program

In Tualatin, an at-grade railroad crossing at Tualatin-Sherwood Road and Boones Ferry Road causes significant traffic flow issues and pedestrian and cyclist safety concerns. Further analysis and planning is needed to determine what changes are possible to improve these issues. The City plans to apply for RCE Program funding in future. Like the CFI Program, the RCE Program was



also created by the BIL, so its authority will expire in September 2026 unless extended by Congress, a debate on which should begin in early to mid-2025.

Protect Local Government's Ability to Offer Tax Exempt Municipal Bonds

With limited revenue sources available, Tualatin has relied on voter-approved general obligation bonds to finance projects. In 2018, voters passed a \$20 million bond to fund transportation projects to improve neighborhood safety, access to parks and schools, and relieve congestion. In just five years, 36 projects were completed. In 2022, voters passed a \$25 million bond to finance parks and trails projects. Already, funds have been used to replace playground equipment, construct a Veterans Plaza, and acquire property for a future park. The authority for local governments to issue tax-exempt bonds may be threatened during consideration of a new tax bill by Congress in 2025. During the 2017 tax bill debate, local governments faced threats to tax-exempt bonding authority, but only lost the option to advance refund bonds. However, given the nuances of tax bill debates, Congress will seek pay-for's to finance portions of their proposed tax cuts, thereby again threatening tax-exempt bond authority, which would be detrimental to Tualatin.