

TO: City Council  
FROM: Austin Ramirez, Economic Development Program Manager  
DATE: December 5, 2023  
SUBJECT: 2024 Legislative Agenda

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1) Recommended Action:

Approve the City's 2024 Legislative Agenda.

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2) Background:

The City annually adopts a Legislative Agenda to guide the City's policy and funding requests for the State Legislature. The Agenda is developed by reviewing the City's adopted plans, trending issues at the Legislature, emergent policy issues, Association of Washington Cities (AWC) legislative issues, and regional legislative initiatives. The Agenda both guides City requests for Legislative action but also assists staff in knowing how to respond to requests of the City's position on policy issues. The AWC Legislative info is available at: <https://wacities.org/advocacy/City-Legislative-Priorities>.

Several key items will also be included under the Thurston Shared Legislative Agenda Partnership, however, that will be finalized later in the year. The Partnership works to advance regional priorities for the upcoming State Legislative session. These priorities, when approved, will provide multiple and broad benefits to the entire region due to the significant scope and impact across and between entities.

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3) Policy Support:

Strategic Priority: "Pursue Targeted Community Development Opportunities" –

- Facilitate Brewery Redevelopment
- Facilitate Capitol Boulevard Corridor Redevelopment

Strategic Priority: "Build a Community Recognized for Quality, Compassion and Humanity"-

- Work with government, non-profit, and private partners to develop and implement a performance-based plan for affordable housing and to address homelessness.

Strategic Priority: "Create and Maintain a Transportation system Safe for All Modes of Travel"

- Design and build the E Street Connection

Strategic Priority: "Be a Leader in Environmental Sustainability"

- Bush Prairie HCP Carbon Sequestration
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4) Alternatives:

- ☐ Do not adopt a Legislative Agenda
  - ☐ Make changes to the proposal
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5) Fiscal Notes:

There is no specific cost to the Legislative Agenda, although specific projects may have costs reflected in various City plans and budgets.

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6) Attachments:

- A. 2024 Legislative Agenda
- B. AWC 2024 Legislative Priorities