



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
STAFF REPORT**

<b>Meeting Date:</b> January 18, 2024		<b>Subject:</b> 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities	
		<b>Staff Member:</b> Mark Ottenad, Public/Government Affairs Director	
		<b>Department:</b> Administration	
<b>Action Required</b>		<b>Advisory Board/Commission Recommendation</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Information or Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council Direction <input type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda		<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Denial <input type="checkbox"/> None Forwarded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <b>Comments:</b> Adoption during Mayor’s Business on January 18 of the 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities provide direction to staff and consultant regarding the City Council’s legislative preferences.	
<b>Staff Recommendation:</b> N/A			
<b>Recommended Language for Motion:</b> N/A			
<b>PROJECT / ISSUE RELATES TO:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Council Goals/Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted Master Plan(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	

**ISSUE BEFORE COUNCIL:**

City Administration seeks adoption by the City Council of a set of 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities that complements the 2023-24 State Legislative Agenda for specific public-policy priorities that advance key City objectives and guide how the City reacts to legislative proposals that may arise during the short, 35-day 2024 session of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Starting in 2023 the City Council adopted a set of specific State Legislative Session Priorities that register specific issues of concern, as well as reflect ad-hoc issues of the day for which long-term City policies may not address adequately but for which the City Council considers important.

**The City's draft set of 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities reflect current topical issues and various issues that have been raised over the past few years.** Some of the priorities below with an asterisk (\*) are a repeat of 2023 legislative session priorities advanced by the City last year:

1. Restore Recreational Immunity for Public Use of Trails
2. Fund WES Commuter Rail Extension Study\*
3. Create a State Residential Housing Infrastructure Fund; Oppose Efforts to Override Land-Use Laws for Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Expansion
4. Reauthorize and Fund the Business Oregon Regionally Significant Industrial Sites (RSIS) Program\*
5. Provide Charbonneau/Wilsonville I-5 Boone Bridge Tolling Waiver/Exemption
6. Extend Sunset on Vertical Housing Development Zone (VHDZ) Incentive
7. Improve Childcare Resources to Benefit Families/Workers and Employers

Attachment 1, draft 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities, provides more details on the above-listed priorities.

## **Background Information**

At the start of each two-year-long session of the Oregon legislature, the City Council adopts a State Legislative Agenda that guides how City staff and consultants evaluate proposed legislation in terms of opposing, supporting or remaining neutral. The City's State Legislative Agenda is grounded in long-term City Council-adopted policies embodied in the Comprehensive Plan and other master plans or specific strategy documents and highlights current Council goals and known issues under consideration.

Over the past two legislative sessions, however, unique opportunities have arisen for the City for which the City did not have specific legislative policy guidance. Subjects or issues that City master plans, Comprehensive Plan, or strategic plans do not address that the City Council has expressed interest in or support for or opposition to. Additionally, new issues arise that require the City to advance specific legislative priorities in a timely manner at the legislature. Thus, starting in 2023 the City Council began to adopt a more timely, current set of Legislative Session Priorities.

The City first developed a written State Legislative Agenda in 2011 with citations to specific sources of City authority for each agenda item. All of the legislative agenda items are based on policies established by the City Council over time through the Comprehensive Plan, Goal 9 Economic Opportunities Analysis and other City master plans/strategies and Council direction. Thus, the City's State Legislative Agenda is grounded in long-term City Council-adopted policies that embrace core community values as expressed by the community's elected officials.

In developing the City's legislative agenda and priorities list, staff review existing and prior city policies and practices, examine the legislative agendas and priorities of other metro-area jurisdictions and affiliated organizations such as League of Oregon Cities (LOC), and gather information from lobbyists and other public-affairs professionals about primary issues of concern in the 2024 legislative session.

### **City's State Legislators**

After the 2020 Decennial Census, the Oregon legislature redrew House and Senate district boundaries based on population changes. All areas of the City of Wilsonville community are now in one House District and Senate District, whereas for the prior 10 years Charbonneau was segmented into a separate set of districts.

- **House District 26: Representative Courtney Neron of Wilsonville** (Democrat), who has been appointed to serve on the following committees during 2024 session:
  - House Interim Committee On Education - Chair
  - Joint Task Force On Statewide Educator Salary Schedules - Co-Chair
  - House Interim Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services
  - House Interim Committee On Gambling Regulation
  
- **Senate District 13: Senator Aaron Woods of Wilsonville** (Democrat), former City Planning Commissioner, who has been appointed to serve on the following committees during 2024 session:
  - Joint Committee On Information Management and Technology - Co-Chair
  - Joint Interim Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development - Co-Chair
  - Senate Committee On Conduct
  - Senate Interim Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs
  - Joint Committee On Conduct
  - Joint Committee On Transportation

Both of Wilsonville's legislators are supporters of public-policy positions that the City has endorsed, and have indicated support to introduce a bill to study the extension of WES Commuter Rail service from Wilsonville to Salem.

### **TIMELINE:**

The 2024 "short" legislative session convenes on February 5 and is scheduled to conclude by March 10, 2024.

### **CURRENT YEAR BUDGET IMPACTS:**

No budget impacts are anticipated based solely on adoption of the 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities. Other legislative-related expenses are currently budgeted.

Actions that the legislature takes can impact the City's budget directly or indirectly in a favorable or detrimental manner.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENT:**

The proposed 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities is in accord with Council's direction for City priorities and policies.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Draft City of Wilsonville/SMART 2024 State Legislative Session Priorities, Jan. 18, 2024
2. City of Wilsonville/SMART 2023-24 State Legislative Agenda, Jan. 19. 2023