



# Legislative Agenda-2017

## Priorities

*The legislative priorities are framed by general principles that promote the Council's goals and protect the city's ability to provide basic municipal services to its citizens.*

### Emergency Well Replacement & Upgrade

This project will replace one failed and another unreliable well with new reliable drinking water infrastructure including a looped water line. This project will permit a private school/church that is experiencing a public health threat from their private well join the system. **Estimated cost is \$4,196,089.**



### Street Improvements (C Street/4<sup>th</sup> & Academy)

After the completion of the CARS project, the City of College Place is continuing to work toward improving the condition of its roadways. The next projects that need to be completed are as follows:



- C Street (College to Larch): **Estimated Cost is \$1,431,000.**
- 4<sup>th</sup> & Academy Way: **Estimated Cost is \$900,000.**

### Mill Creek Channel Study

A study is desperately needed for the Mill Creek Channel through the region. **The total project cost is \$3,000,000.**



### US 12 – Phase 8 Construction

The City of College Place supports funding of Phase 8 of US 12 construction completing a four lane corridor between the Tri-Cities and Walla Walla. **The total project cost is \$207,000,000.**



## Key Issues

### Economic Development/Infrastructure

- **SUPPORT**—Legislative initiative to modify and reform the Public Works Assistance Account so that the state retains a low-interest loan program for basic infrastructure needs.
- **SUPPORT**—Efforts to maximize capital budget funding for infrastructure grant programs such as the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF), Safe Route to Schools, and Bicycle-Pedestrian Grants, and others.
- **SUPPORT** –Increase per-application and overall-funding caps for the “Main Street” program.
- **SUPPORT** – Capital Budget funding and grants for stormwater, including initiatives to make the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) account more sustainable and less prone to revenue spikes and reductions due to fuel prices.
- **SUPPORT** – Legislative initiatives to reestablish state funding and partnerships for economic development incentive programs such as the Local Revitalization Financing program (LRF) or the Local Infrastructure Assistance Tools (LIFT) program.
- **SUPPORT** – Legislation allowing local governments expanded use of “Small Works Rosters” to do small-scale infrastructure and public works jobs in-house.

### Fiscal/Personnel Items

- **SUPPORT** – A structural modification in property tax statutes to tie annual growth to an inflationary index rather than to the one percent limit.
- **SUPPORT** – Gradually restoring liquor revolving account (“Liquor profit”) revenues that were effectively capped in statute in 2012.
- **SUPPORT** – Protecting state-shared revenues and existing distributions that are vital to helping cities meet their obligations such as criminal justice assistance.
- **OPPOSE** – Legislation which results in unfunded mandates, pre-empt local authority, or erodes revenues.
- **OPPOSE** – Legislation that would add new costs and requirements to employee benefit programs without accompanying funds.
- **OPPOSE** – Bills or budget initiatives that would result in increased employer/employee pension rates.

### General Government

- **SUPPORT**—Update the Public Records Act to focus on transparency vs. overly burdensome requests.
- **SUPPORT** – Initiatives that can help reduce costs for cities or make service delivery more efficient.

### Land-Use/Planning

- **SUPPORT**— New tools and options to address affordable housing needs.
- **SUPPORT** – Legislative initiatives to continue to streamline the State Environmental Policy Act.
- **SUPPORT** – Operating budget requests by the Department of Ecology and Commerce to continue providing assistance grants for Growth Management Act plan updates.

### Law Enforcement

- **SUPPORT** – Preserving or expanding state support for the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA)
- **SUPPORT** - Initiatives to more adequately fund and manage mental health challenges.
- **MONITOR** – Legislation emerging from task force on use of body worn cameras.

*The City of College Place supports the Association of Washington Cities Legislative Agenda.*