

RESOLUTION NO. 1029

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE CITY'S 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, an adopted list of priorities will assist in developing effective communication between the City Council and other elected officials, provide policy guidance to the City Manager, and inform residents of issues of importance to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now desires to formally adopt a list of 2024 City legislative priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Approval of 2024 Legislative Priorities. The City of University Place's 2024 legislative priorities are as follows:

1. Enhance Public Safety
 - Support the Association of Washington Cities ("AWC") request for legislative help to address police officer recruitment and retention, including increased funding options and expanding the State's Basic Law Enforcement Academy.
 - Support AWC's request for legislation to address auto theft and property crimes, including further revisions to police pursuit restrictions and additional local and regional funding.
 - Support the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs' request for reform to policies related to juvenile justice, addressing intervention and enforcement issues.
 - Request additional resources to implement the new drug possession laws, as well as request technical revisions to address prosecutors' concerns with implementing the new law.
2. Support Local Government Fiscal Sustainability
 - Request legislation revising the 1% property tax cap to reflect population growth and inflation.
 - Request support for making permanent the financial flexibility provided in 2021 by E2SHB 1069, allowing cities to use a portion of their real estate excise tax revenue for maintenance and operations of parks and capital facilities.
 - Increase state shared funding for city road maintenance and arterial landscaping.
 - Request funds to support park development, such as the proposed community center in Cirque Park.
3. Support Sustainable Housing
 - Explore the expansion of tax exemptions for retired seniors and low-income homeowners to aid in staying in place.
4. Maintain Local Control Over Community Planning
 - Oppose legislation that lessens the tools and flexibility that local governments have to accommodate population growth and address housing affordability.
5. Modify Sex Offender Placement Laws
 - Request changes to laws regarding community placement of Level III sex offenders, including amendments to community notification procedures and amendments to licensing requirements to address proximity to children (not just schools).

With regard to *state capital projects*, the City seeks funding in the following areas and for the following projects:

1. Chambers Creek Roundabout – \$1.7 million to design and construct a safer intersection for vehicles and American with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) compliant pedestrian crossings at the current “T” intersection that serves the major connection between University Place and Steilacoom/JBLM.
2. Traffic Signal Upgrade Project – \$500,000 to upgrade all signals to the emergency battery backup, flashing left turn arrows, and ADA audible pedestrian standards.
3. 57th St Pedestrian and lighting Improvements – \$1.5 million to construct sidewalks and streetlighting along 57th Street.
4. Inclusive Playground Restroom – \$300,000 to construct an additional family style ADA restroom at Cirque Park, to support the new inclusive playground (a joint request with University Place Park and Recreation Foundation).

With regard to *federal capital projects*, the City seeks funding in the following areas and for the following projects:

1. Chambers Creek Roundabout – \$1.7 million to design and construct a safer intersection for vehicles and ADA compliant pedestrian crossings at the current “T” intersection that serves the major connection between University Place and Steilacoom/JBLM.
2. Day Island Spit Road – \$1.5 million to raise the South Spit Road to help address King Tide/Flooding issues.
3. 67th Ave Phase 3 – \$1.9 million to construct sidewalks, bike lanes, street lighting and landscaping along 67th Avenue, between Cirque Drive and 44th Street.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 4, 2023.

Steve Worthington, Mayor

ATTEST:

Emelita J. Genetia, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Matthew S. Kaser, City Attorney