

RESOLUTION NO. 1131

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE CITY'S 2019-21 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.

WHEREAS, the members of the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee have worked diligently to establish a legislative agenda of matters of great importance to the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, in working with our State and Federal legislators, the City Council and City staff will put special emphasis on the matters listed in the legislative agenda; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now desires to formally adopt the 2019-21 State Legislative Agenda and Statement of Support to inform residents and legislators.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor, Washington:

Section 1: Agenda Adoption. The City of Gig Harbor City Council hereby adopts the 2019-21 State Legislative Agenda and Statement of Support as set forth in Exhibit A.

RESOLVED this 22nd day of October, 2018.

APPROVED:



Kit Kuhn, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



Molly Towslee, City Clerk

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: 10/10/18
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: 10/22/18
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City of Gig Harbor State Legislative 2019-21 Legislative Agenda

The citizens of Gig Harbor recognize the need to improve the City's transportation system, recreation opportunities, housing options, and economic opportunities to serve its rapidly growing community. The City requests that the state partner with the city in addressing these four challenges:

Transportation Improvements: State Route 16 Congestion Relief

Gig Harbor residents experience daily traffic congestion along the SR 16 corridor. The Washington State Department of Transportation recently completed a congestion relief study that identified improvements along the SR16 corridor. The City requests that the state invest in the following projects in the following order to address short-term and long-term traffic demands on the corridor:

- Signalize/meter EB Burnham Dr. approach to Borgen Blvd. in advance of the Burnham/Borgen WB SR16 offramp. COST: \$700,000.
- Add NB Pioneer Way RT turn lane at the Wollochet WB/SR16 Bremerton bound onramp. COST: \$750,000.
- Add EB Wollochet offramp right turn slip lane. COST: \$400,000.
- Widen Wollochet Bridge, Wollochet and Pioneer Way, between Grandview and Hunt Street from one to two lanes or more in each direction. Project to include ped/bike improvements. COST: \$18,000,000.
- SR16/Hunt Street Undercrossing. COST: \$40,000,000.

Recreation Opportunities:

Gig Harbor North Trails

The City of Gig Harbor respectfully requests \$1.64 million for the Gig Harbor North Trails. These trails will be in the north end of the City adjacent to the Sports Complex, and will connect the complex with surrounding neighborhoods, Costco, the School District Site and will create a formalized connection to the already existing Cushman Trail. The 3 miles of trail will be ADA accessible with paved and soft surfaces and will include lighting to ensure safety.

RCO Funding for Gig Harbor Sports Complex

The City encourages the Legislature to fund the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) and the Youth Athletic Field (YAF) grant programs at recommended levels. If fully funded, the City would receive a \$500,000 Local Parks grant and a \$375,000 Youth Athletic Facilities grant for the Gig Harbor Sports Complex. Together, these grants will provide two multipurpose turf athletic fields with lighting, six pickleball courts, a restroom structure, 350 parking stalls, and a 6,000 square foot play structure.

Affordable Housing: As Gig Harbor's economy grows, members of the local work force face challenges in finding affordable housing. The City plans to complete a housing affordability study to evaluate the problem and explore solutions. Meanwhile, the City will support policies that lay the groundwork for the City to bring forward a request in 2021 to facilitate affordable housing.

Economic Development: Gig Harbor supports tools that will help the City achieve its vision for economic development benefitting the City's residents. The City also supports the Association of Washington Cities in its focus on economic development during the 2019 session.

The City of Gig Harbor Supports/Opposes

FINANCE/GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
State-Shared Revenues	The City supports the continued appropriation of state-shared funds to local governments, including funds such as liquor excise taxes and profits, streamlined sales tax mitigation funding, the city-county assistance account, and the municipal criminal justice account. Additionally, the City supports legislation to restore growth to the liquor profit/fee revenues. Combined, these funds provide a significant amount of revenue to the City's general fund.
INFRASTRUCTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
Floating Fuel Dock	Boaters who come to Gig Harbor need a local facility to purchase fuel. Gig Harbor is pursuing partnership opportunities with the Port of Tacoma to site a floating fuel dock on the harbor. The City supports and will pursue any funding sources for this project at the same time it is further developing the proposal.
Infrastructure Program Funding	Gig Harbor supports full funding of programs that support development and maintenance of local infrastructure such as the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) and the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB). The City supports the state's investment in the Public Works Assistance Account as a long-term program that provides infrastructure funding for local jurisdictions.
Economic Development Tools	Gig Harbor supports reinvigorating economic development programs currently in statute that now remain unfunded, such as the Local Revitalization Fund (LRF), the Local Infrastructure Financing Tool (LIFT), the Job Development Fund (JDF), and others. Additionally, Gig Harbor supports establishing a tax increment financing or value capture financing program, similar to what is established in other states.
Lowest Bidder Flexibility	The City of Gig Harbor would like additional flexibility in selecting companies for public projects, rather than being forced to pick the lowest bidder at the expense of other important factors. Currently, RCW 39.26.160(1)(a)(iii) states that after a competitive solicitation process, the awarding agency must "Award the purchase or contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder." Providing responsible stewardship of public resources is a paramount city duty. However, because current law restricts cities from considering factors such as past experience, their ability to best protect public resources is hindered. The City will support legislation to expand the criteria that cities may consider when awarding public contracts. <i>(The Intergovernmental Affairs Committee will discuss clarification of this support statement at a future meeting.)</i>

Support Main Street Legislation	The City supports policy and budget decisions that increase funding for Main Street Tax Incentive Program. The Main Street Program was created in 2005 to support downtown revitalization programs. The Downtown Gig Harbor Waterfront Alliance participates in the program.
PUBLIC SAFETY	
BLEA Funding	Gig Harbor supports ongoing funding for the Basic Law Enforcement Academy.
Camera Footage from Toll Booths	The City supports and will look for opportunities to allow photo/camera footage taken from the toll booth on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge to be used to identify criminals, particularly for property crime and auto theft.
Metal Theft	Gig Harbor supports funding for the state metal theft grant program, RCW 36.28A.240, as well as other opportunities to receive reimbursement for City losses from the theft of metal wire and other metals from City owned property.
Use of Deadly Force	The City supports efforts to fairly balance public safety, accountability, and adequate training of all officers.
Police Body Cameras	The City recently equipped their police officers with body-worn cameras. The City supports legislation that removes the sunset on Public Records Act provisions of 2016 body-worn camera legislation to ensure transparency, accountability, and public safety.
LOCAL CONTROL	
5G/Telecommunications	Gig Harbor supports legislation that recognizes local solutions and flexibility with the deployment of small cell technology.