



City of Lacey, Washington Lacey City Council Worksession Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Land Acknowledgment

We, the City of Lacey, are on the ancestral land of the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek, including the Nisqually Indian Tribe and Squaxin Island Tribe. We acknowledge, and remember those Tribal People not recognized today who were absorbed or relocated into other tribes for survival. We recognize the ancestors and their descendants who are still here. We recognize and respect the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek as the traditional stewards of this land since time immemorial and their role today in taking care of these lands in perpetuity. We recognize and have the responsibility to call attention to the histories of dispossession, forced removal, and abridged treaty rights that allowed our nation, state, and city to develop as it has today. We recommend that community members read the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854.

4. Approval of the Agenda

5. Agenda Items

A. Emergency Services Update

Steve Brooks, Chief, Lacey Fire District 3

Darin Goss, Chief Executive, Providence

Dr. Bill Kriegsman, Chief Medical Officer, Capital Medical Center

Ben Miller-Todd, Director, Thurston County Emergency Services

B. Convention and Visitor Board Destination Master Plan Update

Vanessa Dolbee, Community and Economic Development Director

Sarah Schelling, Senior Planner

C. Human Services Grant Program Update

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Michelle Chavez, Human Services Coordinator

6. Adjourn

Meeting Information:

Attendance (Remote or In-Person)

The public may attend the meeting in-person, or you may view or listen to the meeting using one of the following platforms:

In-Person: Council Chambers at Lacey City Hall
420 College Street SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054512922>

Website: <https://cityoflacey.org/government/public-meetings/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cityoflacey>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ciUT9ulo2IE>

Phone: (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 (Webinar ID 820 5451 2922)

Verbal Public Comment

Verbal public comment is not scheduled for Worksessions. Verbal public comment may be provided at Regular City Council Meetings. Regular Council Meetings are held the first and third Thursdays of the month.

Written Public Comment

Public comments may be submitted for Worksessions by email to PublicComment@cityoflacey.org. The commenting period will close two hours before meeting time. Written comments will be provided to the City Council electronically prior to the Worksession meeting. Comments will not be addressed during the Worksession meeting; however, comments received will be added to the official record.





LACEY CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION

March 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Thurston County Destination Master Plan Briefing

RECOMMENDATION: Staff will brief Council on the Experience Olympia and Beyond Destination Master Plan process and recommendations. Staff will facilitate Council discussion and direction on recommended priority focus areas for Lacey.

STAFF CONTACT: Rick Walk, City Manager *RW*
Vanessa Dolbee, C&ED Director *VD*
Sarah Schelling, Senior Project Planner *SS*

ORIGINATED BY: Community and Economic Development Department

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Destination Master Plan Draft Recommendations.

FISCAL NOTE: None.

**WORK PLAN GOAL
AND STRATEGY:** NA

PRIOR REVIEW: NA

BACKGROUND:

In September 2023 the Experience Olympia and Beyond Visitor and Convention Board (VCB) began the process to develop a Destination Master Plan for Thurston County. A Destination Master Plan is a comprehensive and strategic framework that outlines the vision, goals, and strategies for the sustainable development of a destinations tourism sector. It is intended to serve as a roadmap to the growth and management of the tourism sector. Tourism is a crucial component of local economies as it can inject revenue and create job opportunities, helping to drive economic growth.

To being the process the VCB hired CSL – an advisory and planning firm providing consulting services related to the tourism industry – to develop the plan by conducting research, outreach, and engaging a steering committee in a series of meetings aimed at the development of a Destination Master Plan. This is intended to be a guide that can drive

the tourism economy for all of Thurston County. The Master Plan will include strategies, and actionable steps that the VCB, partner groups or stakeholder jurisdictions can take to improve the tourism industry in Thurston County.

The VCB and CSL engaged a steering committee of community stakeholders from the City of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater, and Yelm; representatives from Rainier and Tenino and the Nisqually and Squaxin Tribes; the economic development community including the Thurston EDC, the Thurston Chamber of Commerce, the Port, and private stakeholders from the tourism industry. The group met five times to discuss various items related to the current state of tourism and tourism of the future. Based on those meetings, stakeholder and community member interviews, a community and stakeholder visioning process, and a County wide tour of the Thurston County tourism strengths and assets, CSL has prepared a list of recommended areas of focus for jurisdiction review and prioritization. A detailed list, and narrative related to each area is included as an attachment. The areas include the following (not in ranked order):

1. Expanded diversified lodging
2. Agritourism and Thurston Bountiful Byway
3. Arts, Entertainment, Live Music, and Nightlife
4. Aviation Planning
5. Community Engagement
6. Conference and Meeting Space
7. Connectivity
8. Craft Beverage Sector
9. Culinary Destination
10. Destination Stewardship
11. Doing Business/New Investments
12. Downtown Olympia
13. Equestrian Tourism
14. Events, Festivals and Seasonality
15. Family Attractions
16. Innovation and Technology
17. Mental Health/Unhoused/Drug Use/Safety and Security
18. Outdoor Recreation
19. Public Gathering Space
20. Quiemuth Resort Complex
21. Retail and Commercial District Development
22. Rural Development
23. Sporting Events and Facilities
24. Tourism Funding
25. Trails and Networks
26. Tribal Tourism
27. Waterfront Activation
28. Workforce Development and DEIA
29. Workforce Housing

Next Steps

The consultant and VCB have now asked steering committee members to engage with decision makers to determine a prioritized list of focus areas. At the work session, staff will review the recommendation areas identified above and ask Council to identify those most important for Lacey. Based on the priority's, CSL will develop strategies and actionable goals for use in the Destination Master Plan. The intent is to develop a list of Countywide priorities as well as a section that reflects each jurisdictions/communities' priorities and strategies as they relate to tourism in the region.

As Council reviews the recommendations in the packet from the VCB, staff recommends focusing on those recommendations that are most directly applicable to Lacey. Some of those include the following:

1. Events, Festivals and Seasonality

Take steps to enhance the County's events and festivals, especially during the winter months. Create experiences that encourage overnight stays.

2. Innovation and Technology

Leverage the County's innovation centers, including the Lacey Makers Space

3. Outdoor Recreation

This recommendation focuses on enhancing the recognition and appreciation of the County's outdoor recreation assets. The recommendation specifically references development of the Greg Cuoio Community Park as an opportunity for Lacey in the tourism space for things like eco-tourism, frisbee golf and other adventure activities that could draw visitors.

4. Quiemuth Resort Complex

Ensure collaboration between the local and tribal partners in order to fully integrate the Quiemuth Resort development into the Community fabric. The resort complex presents a significant opportunity to enhance both resident and visitor experiences in the community.

5. Retail and Commercial District Development

Enhance the retail and commercial development districts within communities throughout the County.

6. Sporting Events and Facilities

This recommendation focuses on developing indoor and enhancing outdoor facilities as well as amenities that serve them. Prioritize development of phase 3 of the RAC and leverage existing facilities like 23 Kitchen's as a unique attraction for sports tourism.

7. Trails and Networks

Connect, enhance and extend the network of walking trails and consider providing amenities to activate the trail systems.

Olympia / Thurston County – Destination Master Plan Draft Recommendations

The following material is a presentation of the Draft Recommendations developed following the Visioning Workshop #2 (VW2) held on January 11, 2024 plus comments from the EOB project team and Steering Committee. The Draft Recommendations are listed in alphabetical order.

1. Expanded / Diversified Lodging
2. Agritourism and Thurston Bountiful Byway
3. Arts, Entertainment, Live Music, and Nightlife
4. Aviation Planning
5. Community Engagement
6. Conference and Meeting Space
7. Connectivity
8. Craft Beverage Sector
9. Culinary Destination
10. Destination Stewardship
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Expanded/Diversified Lodging

Thurston County should prioritize developing a full-service hotel in downtown Olympia to attract high-end corporate and group business, in addition to recruiting a unique boutique hotel to enrich the local hospitality market. Additional lodging options should be explored to further support and diversify the lodging mix throughout Thurston County including rural areas. This approach would not only cater to diverse traveler needs but also act as a catalyst for increased foot traffic and cultural events, thereby boosting tourism revenue countywide. Further, introducing these products to the market will likely increase paid lodging occupancy, average daily room rates (ADR), and/or revenue per available room (RevPAR) throughout Thurston County, thereby generating significant sales and lodging tax revenue benefits. The City and the County should engage in public / private collaborations and negotiation with experienced hotel developers, ensure the integration of local cultural elements in the design of both hotel products, and develop comprehensive marketing strategies to promote these new establishments. Additionally, maintaining active community engagement and feedback mechanisms is crucial to align these developments with local interests and sustain long-term economic and cultural benefits for the region.

Agritourism and Thurston Bountiful Byway

Thurston County should maximize the potential of the Thurston Bountiful Byway, by increasing awareness through improved signage, especially along Interstate 5, contingent upon obtaining official state designation and Thurston County approval. EOB should take a lead role in advocating and organizing group tours along the byway, offering unique and immersive experiences. This strategy should be coupled with a focus on innovating land use and strengthening sustainable development policies through partnerships with the agricultural community. Resources should be provided to inspire and inform farmers and other property owners regarding the types of experiences, events, or attractions they could market or develop. Similarly, EOB should provide support to guide these businesses through online, social media, and content creation strategies. Sustained support and official state designation for the Thurston Bountiful Byway and scenic drives are crucial, alongside the periodic review of development standards to facilitate commercial activities for rural landowners, thereby fostering unique agritourism experiences that appeal to both locals and visitors.

Arts, Entertainment, Live Music, and Nightlife

Thurston County should focus on revitalizing its arts, entertainment, live music, and nightlife sectors by fostering greater collaboration and promotion within the arts community. Initiatives such as establishing a County-wide arts council and an arts-focused media or social media outlet are crucial to strengthen connections between visitors, local artists, and events. The Inspire Olympia program will generate revenue from sales tax that may be leveraged in a project-specific basis to support Olympia-centric arts access-related initiatives. Additionally, leveraging

the County's existing and planned creative districts and as go-to destinations through packaged itineraries and marketing campaigns can enhance the visibility of unique businesses and cultural offerings, giving way to regional arts-based placemaking initiatives.

Reviving Olympia's reputation as a music city should be seen as essential, focusing resources on the music and entertainment sector to attract a younger demographic and rebuild the downtown area. Enhancing downtown Olympia's appeal post-dinner hours through diverse offerings such as dining places with live music, unique bars, rooftop restaurants, pedal pubs, and wine tastings, along with celebrating the area's grunge rock and riot grrrl history, should be used to boost the nightlife scene. Developers and creative sector stakeholders should work together to develop these live entertainment spaces, with a focus on celebrating Olympia's past and future in the music industry.

Improvements to countywide infrastructure are also vital for encouraging visitors to stay longer, including adding pedestrian lighting, more nighttime-focused event and festival programming, late night public transportation, public art activations, and addressing restrictive liquor laws for outdoor spaces to facilitate popular nighttime destinations like beer gardens. Diversifying the food offerings to match the region's growth are also key challenges that need attention. Further, Thurston County communities should focus on developing and enhancing spaces like the Lacey MakerSpace, Olympia's Armory Arts Campus, and supporting artists and organizations to advance plans for cultural and creative districts, thereby enriching the arts and entertainment experience in Thurston County.

Aviation Planning

Thurston County should explore the potential for restarting commercial services to Olympia Regional Airport, considering the evolving landscape of aircraft technology, especially the advent of electric and vertical aircraft, which could be particularly suited for a smaller destination like Thurston County. This exploration should include an evaluation of the types of aircraft that are becoming more affordable and widespread, and how they can best serve the region's future air service needs. The County should also engage proactively with local, regional, state, and national authorities to assess and plan for enhanced regional airport facilities and transportation connectivity. This collaboration is essential to address both near-term and long-term aviation needs, ensuring that the aviation infrastructure evolves in line with technological advancements and the growing demands of the region. Careful consideration of these factors will be crucial in making informed decisions about the future of aviation services in Thurston County.

Community Engagement

Thurston County should intensify its efforts in community engagement concerning the tourism industry, as the local community recognizes tourism's significance but perceives its potential as

underutilized. This discrepancy indicates a substantial opportunity for more profound and more active involvement of the community in shaping and enhancing the tourism landscape in Thurston County. By fostering a stronger connection between the residents and the tourism sector, the County can tap into the insights and enthusiasm of the local community, translating this into more effective tourism strategies and initiatives that not only meet but exceed the perceived potential of the region's tourism industry. Potential forums that could be used to strengthen this engagement include town hall meetings, stakeholder luncheons, online surveys, tourism open houses, and / or other methods. Intentional, systematic outreach and advocacy should be prioritized in an effort to strengthen relationships with each Thurston County community.

Conference and Meeting Space

Thurston County should urgently address the shortage of meeting and exhibit spaces, particularly in downtown Olympia, by prioritizing the development of a versatile event venue such as a convention or conference center. This need has been accentuated by the loss of facilities at the Olympia Hotel at Capitol Lake. Many stakeholders have highlighted the absence of a true conference or convention center in Olympia, a rarity for a state capital, suggesting that a new space would significantly meet the demand for event space from state government and association groups. Developing a multifunctional space capable of hosting conventions, conferences, banquets, and other events is not only essential to fill this critical gap but would also enhance the region's appeal for various types of gatherings. Thus, it is recommended that concerted efforts should be made to create and implement a comprehensive strategy for conference and meeting spaces to serve the growing needs of Thurston County's population and visitor industry. Also, opportunities should be explored to partner with the private sector to develop a hotel / conference center product that could accommodate both event space and headquarter hotel room needs of meeting and event planners from the state and regional markets. Additional meeting spaces of varying scale and capacity should be explored throughout the County as well, considering the current and future needs of each unique Thurston County community.

Connectivity

Thurston County should improve connectivity by increasing communications about Experience Olympia & Beyond's free tourism and community events calendars which acts as a comprehensive, centralized information hub for residents and visitors to access news and information about events, festivals, and activities. This platform addresses the need for a reliable, single source of information, particularly crucial during seasons with fewer entertainment options. Further solutions should be explored to communicate with residents and event planners more effectively about this free resource already available today.

Additionally, the desire for a physical 'destination center' in downtown Olympia, going beyond the traditional visitor center concept, should be explored further. This center could not only provide information but should also showcase locally made foods, arts, crafts, and offer insights into tours and itineraries. Inspired by innovative models like those in Lexington, KY, and Augusta, GA, this center should feature interactive elements, local icons, and even rentable spaces for events, reflecting the unique character of Olympia. This concept would be a substantial endeavor for Experience Olympia & Beyond alone; therefore, a partnership with local businesses and other private sector members should be explored. Furthermore, City and County agencies should implement a shared, consistent signage, wayfinding, and information kiosk program throughout the County that reflects the context and character of each Thurston County community. Expanding and improving these elements would help delineate community gateways, reinforce brand identity, and assist visitors, thereby improving overall connectivity in Thurston County.

Connectivity should be improved between existing anchor attractions in downtown Olympia including the Hands On Children's Museum, the Olympia Farmers Market, Percival Landing, the Port of Olympia and Capitol Campus. Jurisdictions should consider implementing design standards for buildings along corridors that include weather protection and awnings. Lit walkways that feature public art should be explored. Connectivity should be explored in Tumwater, considering pending trail and Craft District expansions and developments. Connectivity in Lacey should also be considered when planning for further development of Midtown, the newly envisioned Lacey Museum, and plans for expanding the RAC.

Craft Beverage Sector

Thurston County should prioritize supporting the development of craft breweries, wineries / vineyards, distilleries, and associated experiences in Thurston County to create significant opportunity for enhancing and developing the visitor experience, as well as quality of life for residents. This effort might include brewery, winery, and distillery trails, events, festivals, tastings, partnerships, collaborations, etc. that help to raise the visibility and exposure of these businesses with residents and visitors.

The craft beverage sector should become cornerstones for Thurston County itineraries, events and educational sessions that would draw visitors to the area. Further, some local craft beverage businesses are exploring partnerships with hoteliers, such as offering complimentary drinks to hotel guests, showcasing a collaborative approach that could significantly enhance the region's appeal and tourism experiences.

Culinary Destination

Thurston County should take strategic steps to establish itself as a diverse culinary destination by addressing the current lack of variety in its restaurant scene. Stakeholders have expressed a

desire for more ethnic dining options, suggesting an opportunity for growth in this sector. Additionally, the County should strengthen the connection between the emerging agritourism product and the local culinary scene. Initiatives such as more farm-to-table restaurants, local food sourcing programs, and festivals celebrating this linkage could simultaneously bolster the culinary and agritourism sectors.

A newly formed restaurant and food truck committee or association should play a pivotal role in coordinating and energizing the local culinary community, thereby attracting new restaurants and food trucks to the area. This organized approach should highlight the importance of enhancing culinary tourism by promoting local and sustainable food options, community farms and gardens, and diverse, affordable, and healthy food choices. By focusing on these areas, Thurston County can enrich its culinary landscape, offering a more varied and integrated dining experience that appeals to both locals and visitors.

Destination Stewardship

Thurston County should prioritize destination stewardship with a focus on climate change, environmental protection, and sustainability. This involves balancing the protection of natural environments with tourism development, addressing the potential loss of habitats and threats to Indigenous identity due to climate change, and managing the impacts of natural disasters, rising sea levels, and coastal flooding. An essential part of this effort is educating visitors on environmental stewardship and respect for private property, emphasizing the importance of sustainable travel and geotourism. By integrating these elements into its tourism strategy, Thurston County can ensure that its natural and cultural resources are preserved for future generations while still providing a dynamic and responsible tourism experience.

Doing Business / New Investments

Thurston County should address the challenges faced by businesses, particularly in the realms of obtaining permits, concession licenses, and hosting various entertainment activities, which are currently hindered by complex regulations and procedures. This situation is notably problematic for agritourism enterprises. There is a need to increase awareness among stakeholders about the support available from Thurston EDC, the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce, and municipal economic development partners in navigating these issues. Additionally, real estate developers and investors have identified difficulties in doing business with Olympia and Thurston County, citing high costs, security concerns, and delays that discourage new residential and commercial development, in contrast to the more streamlined processes in neighboring cities like Lacey and Tumwater.

To encourage growth and diversification in business and tourism-related ventures, Thurston County should focus on developing financing strategies and investment opportunities. This includes allocating funds specifically for tourism ventures and leveraging investment networks

to support these initiatives. Furthermore, promoting enterprise zones could attract investment and support regional economic diversity. Addressing these concerns and creating a more business-friendly environment will not only aid existing businesses but also attract new investments, fostering a more vibrant and diverse economic landscape in Thurston County.

Downtown Olympia

Thurston County should focus on enhancing downtown Olympia's appeal as a vibrant, walkable urban center. This can be achieved by supporting the Olympia Downtown Alliance's efforts in addressing cleanliness, safety, and security issues. Funding models such as a Downtown Improvement District (DID) could significantly boost funding for cleaning, safety, ambassador initiatives, and placemaking projects like vacant storefront pop-ups, public art installations, and landscaping. Consistent and annual funding should be prioritized for the sustained implementation of these initiatives.

Further, strategies should be developed to plan and create a welcoming environment for visitors in downtown. This could involve developing signature placemaking projects like a public plaza surrounded by restaurants and beer gardens, creating themed districts that feature distinct branding and wayfinding, and constructing a centralized parking structure to meet the area's parking needs. Connectivity between existing anchor attractions should be explored and expanded. Olympia should address vacant storefronts, enhance pedestrian spaces, install additional lighting, implement complete streets, and develop a comprehensive urban design and placemaking strategy for downtown areas.

Additionally, stakeholders should support the development of a more active "16-hour" downtown environment, with everyday retail and services and safe, secure parking to support both visitors and residents. A concerted communications campaign and higher caliber marquee events and festivals are recommended to draw residents and visitors downtown and showcase the improvements made.

Addressing the impact of COVID and remote work, particularly for State Office employees, which has reduced foot traffic, requires extra efforts in terms of activities and events to revitalize downtown.

By focusing on these areas, downtown Olympia can be transformed into a more attractive, dynamic, and welcoming destination for both residents and visitors.

Equestrian Tourism

Thurston County should capitalize on the significant potential of equestrian tourism by building on the county's existing equine-friendly system of trails, training and eventing facilities, the Thurston County Fairgrounds, T90 Ranch's momentum, and adding additional event facilities,

horseback trails, campgrounds, and other amenities, the County should be positioned as one of the premier equine destinations in the Pacific Northwest. This effort would not only enrich the County's tourism offerings but also place it prominently on the map for equestrian enthusiasts. Focusing on these enhancements should cater to a niche yet growing segment of tourists, contributing significantly to the County's overall attractiveness and tourism revenue. By advocating for and supporting the sector's growth, with marketing and promotion, the County and EOB can play substantial roles in attracting equestrian events and visitors to Thurston County.

Events, Festivals and Seasonality

Thurston County should focus on enhancing its events, festivals, and seasonality strategies to boost tourism, especially during the winter months. Firstly, Thurston County cities should become active, engaged partners in the development and production of high caliber, marquee events and festivals, working to streamline processes and reduce hurdles for organizers. This effort should facilitate the creation of high-quality events that benefit both residents and visitors.

To counter decreased hotel performance in winter, stakeholders suggest the creation of tourism-focused winter festivals to establish a lasting “winter brand” for the destination. Additionally, the County and / or municipalities should develop incentives targeting entrepreneurial efforts that attract visitors during winter, such as providing grants or marketing assistance to hospitality businesses that introduce inventive features (e.g., geodesic domes for outdoor seating, heat lamps, winter-themed events).

Furthermore, while Thurston County benefits from day visitors, there is a need to develop events and experiences that encourage overnight stays, essential for increasing lodging tax revenues. Identifying key day visitation anchors and developing strategies to convert day visitors to overnight guests should be a crucial focus. The events themselves are key to this strategy; one or more multi-day festivals with a variety of programming that varies day to day should be prioritized, with the goal of eventually developing a week-long event that generates hotel room nights each day. Meanwhile, existing multi-day events that reportedly draw material tourism should be evaluated for their potential to grow into longer, more impactful events.

Thurston County municipalities should develop special initiatives, programs, and enterprises that support specialized recreational facilities, joint planning for activities, community awareness for waterfront development, and hosting various events throughout the year. By addressing these aspects, Thurston County can create a more vibrant and appealing tourism experience that spans all seasons and encourages longer stays.

Family Attractions

Thurston County should prioritize and support the expansion of the Hands On Children's Museum in Olympia, recognizing its success and the projected future population and visitor growth. This expansion is essential not only to maintain but also to enhance the museum's level of service and quality to the community. Such an expansion could synergize with the Port of Olympia's efforts to activate the waterfront and Port Peninsula, contributing to a broader regional development. This endeavor will necessitate a combination of public and private sector investment and resources, ensuring the museum keeps pace with its mission and is well-prepared for future demands.

In addition, there is an opportunity to enhance Brewery Park at Tumwater Falls, acknowledged as a popular family attraction. Stakeholders should further pursue developments that improve connectivity between the park and other key locations in the County. Family friendly experiences and businesses should also be explored and recruited in the City of Lacey in conjunction with the community's network of public parks and family-focused recreational spaces. By prioritizing and expanding family attractions, Thurston County should boost its appeal to families and contribute to a more cohesive and engaging regional tourism experience.

Innovation and Technology

Thurston County should actively leverage its innovation centers, such as the Lacey MakerSpace, Olympia Creative District, the Tumwater Craft Brewing & Distilling Center, and the Tenino Ag Park to foster a culture of emerging technologies and innovation. This approach also involves supporting joint initiatives aimed at expanding broadband access and encouraging technological advancements across various sectors and communities. By focusing on these areas, the County should not only enhance its technological infrastructure but also stimulate economic growth and community development. Embracing innovation and technology should position Thurston County as a forward-thinking region, ready to meet the demands of today's and tomorrow's residents and visitors.

Mental Health / Unhoused / Drug Use / Safety and Security

Thurston County is facing a critical mental health crisis, with a significant number of individuals requiring care and many not receiving adequate support, leading to issues like homelessness, criminal behavior, and drug use. This situation poses substantial safety and security challenges for businesses, residents, and visitors in the County, especially in downtown Olympia. Stakeholders have expressed that this is a primary concern impacting their businesses and community, and warn that without improvement, the tourism industry in Thurston County could continue to deteriorate.

To address these challenges, Thurston County should look to Bellevue, Washington, as a case study for effective management of these issues. The County should focus on strategies to address homelessness, which is affecting the destination's image and the tourist experience.

Additionally, there is a need to tackle safety concerns related to crime and drug use, extending these efforts to parks and recreational areas. Significant resources from the federal and state levels should be sought over time to properly evaluate, manage, and gradually improve this condition in the County. Addressing these issues comprehensively is essential for restoring and maintaining the safety and appeal of Thurston County as a desirable destination for tourists, businesses, and residents alike.

Outdoor Recreation

Thurston County should enhance its recognition and appreciation of outdoor recreation, activities, and parks, which are considered high-quality assets by residents but are currently under-recognized in terms of their economic impact. Stakeholders suggest a need for further development of these assets, alongside efforts to educate, communicate, market, and activate their relationship to tourism and resident quality of life.

The development of 550 acres of land in Lacey, like the Cuoio Community Park project, should be an opportunity for eco-tourism assets such as an outdoor adventure park with ziplines, disc golf, rock climbing, and outdoor accommodations like campsites, an RV park, or glamping options. Tenino is also developing significant acreage for outdoor experiences for locals and visitors. Engagement with these projects by EOB and County-wide tourism stakeholders is crucial to guide the planning and development of these types of tourism assets at these sites.

Additionally, the transformation of Capitol Lake into an estuary, though receiving mixed input, should be a chance to develop casual outdoor recreation products, such as a kayak launch. Moreover, Thurston County's identity as an outdoor destination should be strengthened by supporting private businesses that lead tours or rent out equipment for outdoor experiences, focusing on both waterfront- and forest-based activities like paddleboarding, kayaking, and mountain biking.

Stakeholders also highlight the importance of celebrating and activating the heritage and history associated with salmon, suggesting collaboration with local tribes and the community should re-engage in this aspect.

Last, the County should focus on enhancing parks and recreation opportunities, developing and connecting the regional trail system, building resource-oriented facilities, and utilizing various lands for recreational activities. It should emphasize safeguarding and managing nature preserves and historical sites, and the importance of planning, coordination, and preservation of unique places, sites, landmarks, and vistas. By focusing on these areas, Thurston County can significantly boost its appeal as a dynamic outdoor recreation destination.

Public Gathering Spaces

Thurston County should support the development of the Old Brewhouse Tower in Tumwater, an historic property with immense potential to become a major tourism asset, in partnership with the City of Tumwater. Despite its current entanglement with private investors, the property's unique and historic architecture should be transformed into an iconic destination for tourism. Many stakeholders envision a development that could include a brewery, shopping centers, residential areas, dining facilities, and other amenities, alongside potential for public gathering spaces. This development could significantly enhance the appeal of Tumwater, especially if integrated with the potential redevelopment of the former brewery site at Brewery Park into an active mixed use recreational development.

Further, Thurston County should underscore the importance of developing and promoting public gathering spaces as vibrant community hubs. Such spaces could include festival lawns and public green space in the County's more rural communities, as well as plazas and courtyards in urban locales such as downtown Olympia, Lacey's Midtown, and the Tenino Downtown Historic District. These spaces should be designed to host various activities and experiences, contributing to the social and cultural fabric of the community. By focusing on such developments, Thurston County can create engaging, dynamic spaces that attract both residents and visitors, thereby enhancing the overall appeal and vibrancy of the region.

Quiemuth Resort Complex

The Nisqually Tribe Project, encompassing Quiemuth Village and Resort, presents a significant opportunity for the City of Lacey and Thurston County to enhance the quality of resident and visitor experiences. Thurston County should see the project as a game-changer, that could include a diverse mix of facilities such as a casino / gaming hotel with event space, experiential and big-box retail, outdoor park space, a cultural village celebrating and educating visitors about the Tribe, and various location-based entertainment businesses. Additional potential elements like an indoor recreation center, outdoor recreation options, and an amphitheater should enrich the area's tourism industry.

To maximize the project's impact on the County's quality of life and tourism appeal, it should ensure that collaboration and engagement with the public sector are essential. This could include forming formal public / private partnerships. Ensuring planned connectivity with the surrounding area should fully integrate this development into the community fabric.

The collective goal should be to create a vibrant environment and a comprehensive resort destination that caters to both residents and visitors. This development should significantly enhance Thurston County's appeal as a destination, offering a unique and diverse range of experiences and amenities.

Retail and Commercial District Development

Thurston County should develop retail and commercial districts throughout the County's neighborhoods and municipalities, as these areas play a crucial role in enhancing quality of life and attracting and retaining talent. It is essential to create quality-of-life places such as main streets, entertainment venues, music spaces, restaurants, retail, parks, and recreational areas throughout the County.

The development efforts in these areas should involve unique public art, wayfinding, and placemaking initiatives that not only cater to the distinct character of each place but also integrate them into a unified journey for visitors. The addition of EV charging nodes could also enhance the retail and commercial sections. With the region's location on the I-5 corridor, convenient stops for charging in areas with unique and / or destination retail and commercial could be a powerful economic development tool and a way to introduce people to the region, giving them another reason to return. This approach should provide additional experiences for out-of-town visitors, disperse traffic and spending, and reduce the impact on any single area.

The County should also consider the profound changes in the retail sector brought about by COVID-19 and the growth of online shopping, which necessitates a comprehensive rethinking of retail strategies. Collaborating with downtown Olympia on a retail strategy project, with a special emphasis on downtown Olympia and its unique commercial districts, should address these changes effectively. Capital Mall and South Sound Center should also be a key partner in this initiative, and efforts should be made strategize future placemaking investments and tenant mixes at each location that would sustainably enhance traffic. By considering the evolving nature of retail trade and focusing on the unique aspects of each community, Thurston County should create vibrant, diverse, and appealing retail and commercial districts that serve both residents and visitors.

Rural Development

Thurston County should implement a comprehensive rural development strategy, focusing on enhancing its agritourism sector, equestrian tourism, outdoor recreation, and trail networks. Improving signage for the Thurston Bountiful Byway, especially along Interstate 5, and organizing unique group tours are also key to maximizing its potential.

Capitalizing on the development of equestrian tourism should be crucial. By adding event facilities, horseback trails, campgrounds, and other amenities, Thurston County can become a leading equestrian destination in the Pacific Northwest.

In outdoor recreation, the development of large rural sites into eco-tourism assets such as an outdoor adventure park and various accommodations, is vital. Transforming Capitol Lake into an estuary offers opportunities for casual outdoor recreation, and supporting businesses that provide outdoor experiences will strengthen the County's outdoor identity.

Celebrating and activating the local salmon heritage, in collaboration with local tribes and the community, should be an essential element of the destination.

Finally, the County must urgently connect, enhance, and extend its trail network, utilizing available funding and addressing gaps in the existing pedestrian and bicycle network. Both the Chehalis Western Trail and the Woodland Trail provide connections to multiple jurisdictions and an option for E-biking to destinations along the trail. Lacey has created design standards for the development of businesses seeking to locate or remodel existing buildings along the Woodland Trail to activate the trail and to provide potential services to trail users. Encouraging E-bikes along with infrastructure, along the trail systems could serve as an economic development driver.

This approach should ensure a comprehensive, interconnected, and accessible trail system that enhances the County's appeal for outdoor enthusiasts and improves the community's quality of life.

Sporting Events & Facilities

Thurston County should consider developing indoor and outdoor recreational and sports facilities to enhance its appeal as a destination for sports tourism and support local businesses during the winter months. Stakeholders, including hoteliers, restaurateurs, and retailers, have indicated that an indoor recreation and sports venue with amenities like basketball / volleyball courts, a Regional Aquatic Center, and indoor turf facilities could significantly bolster visitor business during the November to January period.

The County should also recognize the need for additional outdoor sports facilities, as the area currently lacks a sufficient concentration of diamond and rectangle fields. The development of a new venue with multiple rectangle fields and a complex with baseball / softball / rugby fields could address this gap. Further, the Regional Athletic Center (RAC) in Lacey should advance to phase three in its expansion, adding diamond fields and alleviating the current programming crunch, allowing for more tournaments and events.

Additionally, the County should consider constructing a small stadium for a primary tenant, such as an off-season collegiate baseball or soccer league, which could generate community excitement and serve as a championship venue for amateur sports tournaments.

Furthermore, leveraging existing facilities like Lacey's 23 Kitchens for pickleball tournaments and corporate rentals should present an opportunity for partnerships and enhanced promotion, potentially making Thurston County a unique attraction for sports tourism. Including such facilities in multi-experience itineraries for visiting groups should further boost their appeal.

Attention should be paid to the sustainability and profitability of sports complexes, ensuring the local market can sustain a large sports complex, and managing potential scheduling conflicts in shared facilities. Additionally, the County should consider sports complexes as magnets for energy, camaraderie, and competition that can also draw teams, spectators, events, and spur both quality of life and economic activity, enhancing the overall sports and recreational profile of Thurston County.

Tourism Funding

Thurston County should closely examine and address the constraints and limitations associated with current funding sources for tourism marketing, projects, and capital projects, particularly those related to the Tourism Promotional Area (TPA) and other tourism-related taxes. This review should be used to identify potential challenges in utilizing these funds effectively and to explore alternative or additional funding mechanisms that can support the County's tourism objectives. By understanding and navigating the complexities of these funding sources, Thurston County can ensure that sufficient and appropriate financial resources are allocated to enhance and develop its tourism infrastructure, contributing to the overall growth and sustainability of the tourism sector.

Trails & Networks

Thurston County should prioritize the urgent and timely task of connecting, enhancing, and extending its network of walking, hiking, biking, and equestrian trails, capitalizing on the current availability of funding sources and grants. Given the limited window for utilizing these resources, immediate action is crucial.

Both the Chehalis Western Trail and the Woodland Trail provide connections to multiple jurisdictions and an option for E-biking to destinations along the trail. Lacey has created design standards for the development of businesses seeking to locate or remodel existing buildings along the Woodland Trail to activate the trail and to provide potential services to trail users. Encouraging E-bikes along with infrastructure, along the trail systems could serve as an economic development driver.

The County should address gaps in the existing pedestrian and bicycle network. By focusing on these network gaps, Thurston County should ensure that its trail system is not only comprehensive and interconnected but also accessible and welcoming to both visitors and residents. Enhancing this network should contribute significantly to the County's appeal as a destination for outdoor enthusiasts and improve the overall quality of life for its community.

Tribal Tourism

Thurston County should develop facilities, opportunities, and sustainable goods and services that celebrate and honor tribal heritage, culture, and recreation. This development should be grounded in mutual respect and collaboration with the local tribes. By paying careful attention to the cultural significance and values of the tribes, the County can create meaningful and respectful partnerships. These efforts will not only enrich the cultural landscape of the County but also provide residents and visitors with authentic and educational experiences related to the rich tribal heritage of the region. Such initiatives should be crucial for fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the tribal communities and their contributions to the County's history and contemporary life.

Waterfront Activation

Thurston County should prioritize greater activation of the downtown Olympia waterfront, responding to the demand for higher quality events, festivals, activities, retail, food and beverage options, music, entertainment, recreation, and sports. Increased activity in this area should help mitigate negative perceptions related to safety and security. Several potential sites exist that could be developed to accommodate these concepts, notably the Port Peninsula, which could be transformed into a destination waterfront featuring top-tier restaurants, recreation, public art, visitor accommodations, and gathering spaces. This development should ensure connectivity with the water, the nearshore environment, and the existing downtown core.

Olympia should emphasize the importance of developing Port Peninsula into a premier destination. This includes focusing on the health of Puget Sound, collaborating with the Squaxin Island Tribe and / or Nisqually Indian Tribe, and exploring the potential for a meeting / conference facility and upscale lifestyle hotel. Such developments will significantly enhance the appeal and vitality of Thurston County's waterfront areas, making them vibrant hubs for both residents and visitors.

Increasing well developed, public waterfront access (Puget Sound, lakes, rivers, and streams) throughout the County and each municipality should also be prioritized. Public input has shown a high interest in arts, cultural experiences, and nature, which should be integrated into these waterfront developments. The proposed West Bay development also offers potential for mixed-use development and recreational elements.

Challenges such as regulatory issues at Boston Harbor Marina and space constraints at Olympia Yacht Club, especially with the planned Capitol Lake restoration, indicate a need to work with the state to possibly loosen restrictions on waterfront development and provide incentives for expanding tourism-related businesses.

Workforce Development & DEIA

Thurston County should face its challenges in attracting young professionals due to a lack of quality-of-life amenities, limited walkable areas with diverse activities, scarce nightlife and live music options, and insufficient outdoor engagement opportunities. These deficiencies impact both visitors and residents, with the latter also affected by a lack of creative class employers and jobs. Addressing this "chicken and egg" problem should be addressed by long-term placemaking and product enhancements to gradually attract creative class jobs and young professionals, a critical aspect of the Master Plan.

The hospitality industry in Thurston County, still recovering from workforce exits during the pandemic, struggles with attracting and retaining staff, exacerbated by issues like livable wages, childcare, and transportation, particularly misaligned public transport schedules. It should leverage high schools, community colleges, and workforce training institutions to develop a stronger hospitality pipeline.

The County should also focus on workforce and employment by addressing the evolving needs of employers and job seekers, tackling challenges of an aging workforce, bridging the labor supply-demand gap, addressing underemployment, catering to employers' preference for post-secondary experienced workers, addressing wage issues, navigating labor market limitations post-COVID, educating locals about tourism's impact, establishing childcare as a critical economic development strategy, and engaging in collaborations with educational institutions.

Additionally, the County should place emphasis on equity, diversity, and inclusion, addressing trust, involvement, accessibility, and public safety in marginalized communities, developing an inclusive economy, addressing transportation and accessibility challenges, modifying facilities for inclusivity, attracting diverse applicants through blind recruiting, and ensuring diverse representation in programs, events, and materials. By focusing on these areas, Thurston County can enhance its appeal to a diverse and skilled workforce, contributing to the region's economic and cultural vibrancy.

Workforce Housing

Thurston County should pay significant attention to the development of affordable housing solutions, addressing societal inequality and the growing demand for additional, reasonably priced housing units. This focus is crucial to ensure an adequate supply of workers for the tourism sector, which is vital for the County's economic health and sustainability. By prioritizing affordable housing, the County should provide stability and support for those who play a key role in the tourism industry, thereby fostering a more equitable and thriving community. This strategy not only benefits the workforce but also strengthens the overall appeal and functionality of Thurston County as a destination for visitors and residents alike.



LACEY CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION

March 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Update on Human Services Grant Program

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Option 1:

Proceed with creating an ad hoc Human Services Workgroup, conduct a human service needs assessment, and proceed with 2024 Human Services Grant Program (HSGP) priorities areas outlined in the staff report.

The Lacey City Council would take action on the Draft Resolution to establish the Human Services Workgroup at a later Regular City Council meeting.

STAFF CONTACT:

Rick Walk, City Manager *RW*
Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager *SKF*
Michelle Chavez, Human Services Coordinator *mjc*

ORIGINATED BY: City Manager's Department

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution establishing ad hoc Human Services Workgroup
2. Draft Workgroup Application

FISCAL NOTE: 2024 budget includes \$300,000 for the Human Services Grant Program.

PRIOR REVIEW: None

**WORK PLAN GOAL:
AND STRATEGY**

Vibrant Place to Live, Work and Play
D. Finalize Homeless Response Plan and Enhance Social Services

An Engaged Community
L. Enhance Communication and Engagement Efforts

BACKGROUND: General information on the City Lacey's (City) Human Services can be accessed here: <https://cityoflacey.org/human-services/>.

As part of the 2024 Budget, the Lacey City Council allocated \$300,000 to establish a comprehensive, reliable, and accessible Human Services Grant Program (HSGP). This program was established to take the place of the ad hoc funding the City provided to various non-profit groups over the past few years to make the process more equitable, efficient, and predictable for the community and the organization.

Over the past few months, City staff researched existing human services programs from other communities around Washington state and beyond. As part of this process, the City contacted five (5) communities about their programs and best practices. The cities interviewed were Bellevue, Issaquah, Lakewood, and Marysville in Washington, and Hillsboro in Oregon. **Table A** provides a high-level overview of these five communities and their respective human services grant programs.

From these interviews, all of the five communities had:

- Stand-alone human services grant programs funded by general funds;
- Used some type of advisory board or work group to make recommendations on funding allocation; and
- A competitive grant application process to determine funding.

In addition, of the five communities:

- 80% performed needs assessments (see below for more detail). One City modeled their priorities off other nearby cities;
- 60% only allowed social services programming to be funded;
- 40% allowed smaller capital projects, such as equipment purchases and ADA improvements. This allows the human services grants to fill gaps that Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and other federal dollars do not fund;
- 60% had minimum grant awards and one (1) did not allow for partial funding unless the application was the lowest scored and there were not enough dollars left for a full award; and
- 40% had a maximum award.

Table A											
Comparison of Select Human Services Grant Programs											
Agency	State	Stand Alone Human Services Program	Advisory Board / Work Group	Competitive Application	Only Social Services Funding	Small Capital Projects	Min. Award	Max Award	No partial funding	Community Needs Assessment	Advisory Board Name
Bellevue	WA	X	X	X	X		X			X	Human Services Commission
Hillsboro	OR	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	Impact Grant Work Group - Finance Commission and Community Members
Issaquah	WA	X	X	X	X					X	Human Services Commission
Lakewood	WA	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	Community Services Advisory Board
Marysville	WA	X	X	X		X					Uses CDBG Advisory Committee

Needs Assessment

Most of the communities interviewed performed a human services needs assessment to determine the priority areas for funding and to inform strategic planning. Staff plans on performing a needs assessment of human services gaps in the community to help inform future HSGP funding rounds, if budgeted in future years. This preparation involves research, survey development and creating a community engagement plan. This assessment can be performed in a number of ways, including combinations of an electronic survey, in-person focus groups, on-on-one interviews, hybrid meetings, workshops, etc.

Performing a needs assessment can take up to six months, **see Table B**.

Activities included in the engagement plan would be:

- Interviews with community partners, particularly in the non-profit sector serving Lacey low income and special needs community members;
- An on-line survey for all community members;
- Focus groups with public safety workers, health care (including mental health care) professionals;
- Focus groups with non-English speakers and recent immigrants;
- Interviews with clients receiving direct services; and
- Focus groups with youth, school staff, and older adults.

The City is planning on performing more research on needs assessments from March to May and then performing the needs assessment from June through September. The City would like to establish an ad hoc Human Services Workgroup to advise this process.

Table B	
Human Services Needs Assessment Timeline (2024)	
March to May	Research and Development
June to September	Outreach and Engagement
October	Writing Draft and Presenting to Work Group
November	Present Draft Report and Recommendations to City Council

Year-One Program Recommendations:

For year one, given the timeline and work required to perform a Needs Assessment, Staff is recommending the Lacey City Council establish funding priorities so that the

2024 grant process can commence. Concurrently, the City would work on performing a needs assessment for use for future grant cycles.

Based on previous City human service-related funding, as well as a scan of other Human Services Grant funding programs, Staff recommends that the Lacey City Council authorize the following elements for the 2024 Human Services grant funding:

2024 Funding Priorities: Essential Social Services for low-income and special needs populations. Services must focus on basic needs and serve Lacey community members. Basic needs are defined as:

- a. **Housing:** expanding and upgrading affordable housing programs, emergency rental assistance, housing education, creating and maintaining supportive housing services.
- b. **Survival:** access to food, water, shelter, sleep, clothing.
- c. **Security:** job training and placement, mental and physical health care, drug and alcohol recovery, support in times of personal and family crisis, transportation.

Minimum and Maximum Awards: Staff recommends a maximum grant of \$50,000 for capital projects (brick and mortar) and include an acknowledgement that some applicants will receive partial funding. No minimum or maximum for service-based projects.

Create Ad Hoc Human Services Workgroup: Staff recommends creating an ad hoc Human Services Workgroup to review 2024 Human Services Grant applications, make funding recommendations, advise on the Human Services Needs Assessment and future grant priorities, and make a recommendation on a standing Human Services Advisory Committee.

This Workgroup would:

- Meet once per month or as needed through 2024;
- Review 2024 HSGP applications and make recommendations to Lacey City Council for 2024 funding allocations;
- Advise on a human services needs assessment;
- Make recommendations on longer-term priorities for HSGP funding; and
- Make a recommendation on a standing human services advisory board.

Proposed Program Timeline: Table C provides a proposed timeline for the Human Services Workgroup and Grant Program.

Table C			
Proposed Grant Program Timeline (Dates subject to change)			
Human Services Grant Program	Dates	Needs Assessment	Comprehensive Plan: Human Services Element
Lacey City Council update on the Draft HSGP	March 12 th	Research and development	Collaborate with CED on planning and engagement
Lacey City Council authorizes Human Services Work Group and the 2024 HSGP priorities	March 19 th		
City opens applications for the Human Services Workgroup members	March 25 th to April 12 th		
Mayor interviews Human Services Workgroup applicants	April 22 nd to April 26 th		
Lacey City Council approves Human Services Workgroup members	May 21 st		
Human Services Workgroup Kick Off Meeting	June 6 th	Outreach and Engagement	Work with Human Services Workgroup and Planning Commission on Human Services Element
2024 HSGP Applications Open	June 10 th to July 5 th		
Human Services Grant Applicant Workshop	June 13 th		
Human Services Workgroup reviews HSGP applications	July 15 th to July 19 th		
Human Services Workgroup finalizes HSGP funding recommendations	August 1 st		
Lacey City Council reviews HSGP funding recommendations	August 27 th		
Lacey City Council approves HSGP funding	September 3 rd		
HSGP funding is awarded and funds are used	October 1, 2024 to September 30 th 2025	Draft presented to Workgroup; Recommendation from Workgroup	
Humans Services Workgroup finalizes advisory board recommendation	October/November		

Lacey City Council reviews advisory board recommendation	December	Needs assessment presented to Lacey City Council for approval	
Lacey City Council reviews needs assessment and 2025 HSGP priorities			
Lacey City Council approves needs assessment, 2025 HSGP priorities, takes action on potential advisory board			
2025*			
2025 HSGP application opens	Jan/Feb		
Lacey City Council receives presentation on 2024 HSGP funding	Feb		
Human Services Grant Applicant Workshop	Jan/Feb		
Pending direction: Advisory Board makes recommendations on 2025 HSGP funding	March		
Lacey City Council reviews 2025 HSGP funding/ recommendations	March/April		
Lacey City Council approves 2025 HSGP funding	March/April		
2025 HSGP funding is awarded and funds are used	April – December 2025		
2026*			
2026 HSGP application opens	Jan/Feb		
Lacey City Council receives presentation on 2025 HSGP funding	Feb		
Human Services Grant Applicant Workshop	Jan/Feb		
Pending direction: Advisory Board makes recommendations on 2026 HSGP funding	March		

Lacey City Council reviews 2026 HSGP funding/ recommendations	March/April		
Lacey City Council approves 2026 HSGP funding	March/April		
2026 HSGP funding is awarded and funds are used	April – December 2026		
*pending budget funding			

Next Steps. Staff is seeking direction for the Lacey City Council.

Option 1: Proceed with creating an ad hoc Human Services Workgroup, conduct a human services needs assessment, and proceed with 2024 Human Services Grant Program (HSGP) priorities areas outlined in the staff report. The Lacey City Council would take action on the Draft Resolution to establish the Human Services Workgroup at a later Regular City Council meeting.

Option 2: Provide direction to City staff on other elements to consider. After further diligence on these elements, City Staff would then return to the Lacey City Council to review additional materials for consideration.

Option 3: Some other option not contemplated in the above options.

RESOLUTION No. _____

CITY OF LACEY

A RESOLUTION OF THE LACEY CITY COUNCIL CREATING A TEMPORARY AD
HOC HUMAN SERVICES WORK GROUP

WHEREAS, the Lacey City Council budgeted \$300,000 in 2024 for a new, competitive Human Services Grant Program to support vulnerable community members and enhance the wellbeing of all; and

WHEREAS, the City provides and supports a broad range of local human services in the community to alleviate hardships and help individuals access community resources, including by providing funding to support the work of non-profits and other governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Lacey City Council wishes to enhance community engagement, government transparency, and community oversight of the Human Services Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the City has many capable and experienced community members with expertise in the area of human services and assessing the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Lacey City Council desires establishing an Ad Hoc Human Services Workgroup to better understand overall human services needs in the community and help make recommendations on human service grant funding.

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

The Lacey City Council hereby declares its intent to permit the establishment of an ad hoc Human Services Work Group, assembled as set forth in **Exhibit A**, with the purpose of:

1. Evaluating 2024 Human Services Grant Applications and making recommendations to the Lacey City Council for funding awards.
2. Advising the City on a Human Services Needs Assessment.
3. Making recommendations for funding priorities and a standing advisory board.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption and signature as provided by law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LACEY, WASHINGTON, this ____ day of _____ 2024.

CITY COUNCIL By _____
Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

City Attorney

Exhibit A

Lacey Human Services Work Group

The purpose of the Human Services Work Group is to: 1) make recommendations to the Lacey City Council on 2024 Human Services Grant Funding; 2) advise the City on a Human Services Needs Assessment and future funding priorities; and 3) advise the City on the establishment of a standing Human Services Advisory Board.

1. Membership

- A. The Human Services Work Group shall consist of seven general members and one youth member. Five of whom reside in the city of Lacey and two whom may reside in Lacey's urban growth management area, except as outlined in subsection C of this section. Human Services Work Group members shall be appointed by the Mayor, which appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the Lacey City Council. Terms for general members shall be until the completion of the scope of duties but generally not longer than one year. The general and youth members shall be selected without respect to political affiliations.
- B. The youth member shall be at least sixteen years of age (when appointed), enrolled as a junior or senior in the North Thurston School District, or enrolled in private school or homeschooled, and be a resident of the city of Lacey or reside in Lacey's urban growth management area.
- C. General membership on the Human Services Work Group shall always include at least two professionals who have experience in human services, e.g., direct service, management, or volunteer work. The Human Services Work Group action that would otherwise be valid shall not be rendered invalid by the temporary vacancy of one or both of the human services positions. The Mayor and City Council, in order to obtain representatives with this expertise, may make appointments despite the residency requirements of Section A of this section.

2. Compensation

- A. The Human Services Work Group members shall not receive any salary or other compensation for services rendered on the commission, but necessary expenses actually incurred and within the budget as set by the annual budget ordinance shall be paid.

3. Advisory Board Stipend Program

- A. The Lacey City Council recently adopted an Advisory Board Stipend Program aimed at reducing barriers to participation in government and increasing representation on the City's Advisory Boards. Human Services Work Group Members will have the option to opt-in to this program.

4. Organization and Records

- A. The Human Services Work Group shall select its own chairperson from within its membership and may create such other offices as it may deem necessary and shall adopt all necessary rules for the transaction of its business and the keeping of its own records. A recording secretary shall also be appointed from within its membership or from city of Lacey staff.
- B. An accurate record shall be kept of the proceedings of all meetings, including all motions, resolutions and transactions, findings and determinations. These records shall be public.

5. Removal

- A. General or youth members may be removed from the Human Services Work Group prior to the completion of the scope of duties by the Mayor with approval of the City Council, pursuant to the city of Lacey policy procedure manual and boards and commissions standards, protocols, and ground rules handbook.
- B. Vacancies occurring otherwise than through the completion of the work group, may be filled for the duration of the work group. The members shall be selected without respect to political affiliations. The general work group members may request the resignation of a general and/or youth member who has three or more unexcused absences at regular meetings in a calendar year.

6. Quorum

- A. A majority of the general members of the Human Services Work Group shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The youth Human Services Work Group member shall not be included in the count to constitute a quorum. Any action taken by a majority of those present, when those present constitute a quorum, at any regular or special meeting of the Human Services Work Group, shall be deemed and taken as the action of the Human Services Work Group.



Human Services Work Group Application

The City of Lacey is seeking seven community members to serve on an ad hoc Human Services Work Group as a result of Resolution _____.

- Five members will reside within the City limits
- Two members will reside in the Lacey Urban Growth Area
- If appointed, you will be eligible to opt in for a stipend of \$50 per meeting and a maximum of \$500.00 in a year

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

- Meet at least once per month or as needed through 2024
- Review 2024 human services grant applications
- Make recommendations to the City Council for 2024 funding allocations
- Advise the City and Council on a human services needs assessment
- Make a recommendation on longer-term priorities for funding
- Make a recommendation on a human services commission

Questions, contact Michelle.Chavez@CityofLacey.org or call 360-486-8746

First Name *

Last Name *

Personal Pronouns

Select or enter value

Email address *

Phone Number *

Do you live in Lacey or the Lacey UGA? *

UGA is Urban Growth Area

Select or enter value

Address *

City, State and ZIP Code *

How long have you been a resident? *

Interest *

What is your interest in being a part of the Lacey Human Services Work Group?

Work Group Experience *

Have you been a member of a board, commission or work group in the past? If yes, please describe your experience.

Education Experience *

Please indicate your level of education.

Work and Lived Experience *

Please describe any knowledge, skills or experience that would assist in your ability to serve on the work group.

Licenses and Credentials

Please list any licenses or credentials that you hold in social work, human services, health care, behavioral health, etc.

Time Commitment *

Approximately how many hours each month can you volunteer for this work group?

Public Records Notice

The information entered in this form may be considered a record subject to public review.

Certification

I certify that all information on this application is true and correct.