



Lacey City Council Worksession Agenda

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for meeting information.

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers and Online

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Land Acknowledgement

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 they have today. We recommend that community members read the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854.

4. Approval of the Agenda

5. Public Comment

Refer to the bottom of the agenda for instructions on how to provide public comment.

6. Agenda Items

A. 2026 State Legislative Agenda and Manual

Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager

Brian Enslow, State Government Affairs Consultant

B. Regional Athletic Complex Improvements

Jennifer Burbidge, Parks, Culture, and Recreation Director

Troy Woo, Finance Director

Brett Boogerd, Capital Project Engineer

C. Comprehensive Plan Update

Vanessa Dolbee, Director of Community & Economic Development

Ryan Andrews, Community Planning Manager

7. 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/webinar/register/WN_K4n7qwFnTQ2pVXEwdQpf4w

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

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

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7kaqvtTn_k

Phone: (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 (Webinar ID 889 1819 7423)

Verbal Public Comment

Each speaker is limited to three minutes. Comments are welcome on matters connected to City business or specific agenda items.

Prior to starting your comments, please provide your:

- a. Name
- b. City of residence or connection to the City
- c. Topic or subject matter of your comments

Those wishing to provide verbal public comment may do so in-person or by Zoom:

In-Person: Use the sign-up sheet located in the Council Chambers.

Zoom: Preregister using the following Zoom link no later than two hours prior to the meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_K4n7qwFnTQ2pVXEwdQpf4w

Instructions and access details will be provided once registration is complete.

Written Public Comment

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



LACEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 2, 2025

SUBJECT: 2026 State Legislative Agenda and Manual

RECOMMENDATION: Option 1: Motion to approve “2026 State Legislative Agenda and Manual.”

STAFF CONTACT: Rick Walk, City Manager *RW*
Shannon Kelley-Fong, Assistant City Manager *SKF*

ORIGINATED BY: City Manager's Department

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2026 State Legislative Agenda
2. 2026 State Legislative Agenda – Accessible Copy
3. 2026 State Legislative Manual

FISCAL NOTE: Not applicable

PRIOR REVIEW: November 25, 2025

BACKGROUND: Annually, the City of Lacey establishes priorities for the upcoming Washington state legislative session.

The 2026 State Legislative Agenda and the 2026 State Legislative Manual are intended to reflect the City's current priorities at the state level. These documents help the City achieve its legislative priorities in 2026 and beyond. **Table A** identifies the draft 2026 legislative priorities.

The Lacey City Council reviewed the draft 2026 State Legislative Agenda and 2026 State Legislative Manual at their November 25, 2025, Worksession meeting.

Table A	
Draft 2026 State Legislative Agenda Priorities	
Priorities	Budget / Policy
1. Thurston County Regional Basic Law Enforcement Academies at the Lacey Regional Training Center	Operating
2. Annexation Sales and Use Tax Credit Extension	Policy

3. Authorize Sustainable Animal Control and Sheltering Funding Mechanism	Policy
4. Develop Long-term Funding Solutions for Right-of-Way Initiative-funded Programs	Operating / Policy
5. Local Law Enforcement Grant Program Update	Operating / Policy
6. Transportation Benefit District – Removal of Ongoing Voter Approval Requirement	Policy
7. Public Defense Standards Impact	Operating / Policy

Policy Manual: In the policy Manual, the following entries were added from 2025:

- 8. Protection of Local Funding for State-Mandated Responsibilities
- 9. Unsustainable, unfunded Mandates: Focus on Community-based Decision Making
- 10. Modernizing Public Notice and Ordinance Publishing Requirements
- 11. Support for Permanent Public Facility District (PFD) Funding
- 12. Landlord Tenant Act Update
- 13. Youth Recreational Facilities Grant Program – Eligibility Clarification
- 14. Additional Public Facilities District (PFD) Extension

Next Steps. Upon review, the Lacey City Council could consider one of the following four options:

Option 1: Motion to adopt the 2026 State Legislative Agenda and the 2026 State Legislative Manual. (staff recommended)

Option 2: Take no action; Do not adopt the 2026 State Legislative Agenda and the 2026 State Legislative Manual.

Option 3: 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 4: Some other option not contemplated in the above options.



2026 State Legislative Priorities

LACEY CITY COUNCIL

Andy Ryder, Mayor
Malcolm Miller, Deputy Mayor
Lenny Greenstein
Michael Steadman
Carolyn Cox
Robin Vazquez
Nicolas Dunning

Adopted by Lacey City Council on December 2, 2025

1 THURSTON COUNTY REGIONAL BASIC LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMIES (BLEA) AT THE LACEY REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER



Police departments across Washington state continue to face significant staffing shortages. As communities grow and more law enforcement personnel retire, the state's Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) must receive adequate funding to provide training opportunities for new hires. Regional academies help reduce academy wait times and officer vacancy rates, and enhance local officer recruitment efforts. They also improve equity in training by enabling greater participation from local community members, eliminating the need for extended time away from home. In addition, establishing a regional BLEA in Lacey would be an effective use of limited public dollars, as we will have a new, purpose-built training center in early 2026. This would expedite an academy start date. Lacey is ideally located to serve five contiguous counties throughout the South Sound region. **We request an annual allocation of \$1,000,000 for the**

Criminal Justice Training Center (CJTC) to operate a regional BLEA academy at the Lacey Training Facility for five years. After five years, CJTC could reevaluate the impact of regional facilities and the status of potential upgrades to the main CJTC campus.

2 AUTHORIZE SUSTAINABLE ANIMAL CONTROL AND SHELTERING FUNDING MECHANISM

We request the creation of a dedicated funding mechanism to support animal control and sheltering. This funding would help support the ongoing operations and capital planning for Joint Animal Services (JAS). JAS established in 1977, is operated by the cities of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County. JAS has an 8,000 sq. ft. facility that serves as the community's primary shelter for animal rescues and homeless pets. The agency serves almost 304,000 residents in 774 square miles of urban and rural terrain.



3 ANNEXATION SALES AND USE TAX CREDIT EXTENSION

We appreciate the inclusion of the sales and use tax credit in HB 1425 (2024), which provides critical support for cities undertaking annexations. To ensure cities and counties have sufficient time to thoughtfully and collaboratively evaluate and implement these complex processes, **we respectfully request extending the sunset date from July 1, 2028, to July 1, 2038.** Based on the 2023-2024 state annexation data, no jurisdictions have met the threshold to use this tax credit, demonstrating the need for additional time to support implementation.



View Online:

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CITY OF LACEY

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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Brian Enslow, Arbutus LLC
Brian@arbutusllc.com | 360-489-8121



City of Lacey 2025 State Legislative Priorities

4 DEVELOP LONG-TERM FUNDING SOLUTIONS FOR RIGHT OF WAY INITIATIVE-FUNDED PROGRAMS

We appreciate the state's continued leadership in responding to the homeless crisis, including funding for Maple Court. **We strongly urge the establishment of a sustainable, long-term funding mechanism for existing Right-of-Way Initiative-funded programs, rather than relying on the instability of short-term funding.**



5 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE

We urge amending the Local Law Enforcement Grant Program to prioritize funding for WASPC-accredited agencies. Accreditation requires departments to meet established best practices in policing — covering everything from use-of-force policies to officer training, improving operational efficiencies, reducing risk and liability, and increasing community engagement. It also affirms that a department operates with transparency, accountability, and commitment to continuous improvement. Providing prioritization for accredited agencies would incentivize accreditation, improving public safety in the state. **We also recommend the grant funding period extend 36 months from the date an entity receives grant funding to maximize the benefits of increased public safety impacts.**

6 TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT – REMOVAL OF ONGOING VOTER APPROVAL REQUIREMENT



We, like other local jurisdictions across Washington, rely on Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs) to fund critical transportation infrastructure and maintenance. TBDs enable cities to address aging infrastructure and growing transportation demands with dedicated, locally controlled funding sources.

We respectfully request the TBD statutes be amended to remove recurring voter approval requirements and to make extensions council-manic. This change would bring TBD revenue tools into better alignment with other local sales tax authorities, such as those for public safety, which do not require repeated voter reauthorization. It would also reduce administrative

burdens, election costs, and the risk of service disruption caused by funding uncertainty. Transportation improvements are long-term investments that demand stable, predictable funding streams. Gas tax revenue — the only dedicated funding source for transportation — has steadily declined for years, highlighting the urgent need to identify more stable and sustainable funding alternatives.

7 PUBLIC DEFENSE STANDARDS IMPACT

We are highly concerned about the impacts of the caseload limits adopted by the Washington State Supreme Court, which will reduce the number of unweighted misdemeanor cases from 400 to 120 over the next 10 years. We recognize and support the intent behind the new public defense caseload standards — to ensure quality legal representation and uphold constitutional rights. However, implementing these standards will have significant financial impacts at the local level. For the City, we estimate the changes will result in an increased annual cost of approximately \$100,000, adding up to over \$1 million in new yearly expenses by 2036. Over the ten-year implementation, the City estimates an increase of over \$4 million in total new expenses. These added costs stem primarily from the need to hire additional public defenders and support staff to comply with the lower caseload limits, as well as potential infrastructure and administrative adjustments. **We urge the Legislature and relevant agencies to recognize the funding gap created at the local level and to partner with cities to ensure this mandate is adequately and sustainably funded.** Without meaningful financial support, local jurisdictions will struggle to maintain current service levels across other essential programs while meeting the new public defense requirements. In addition, as implementation of these standards progress, we urge the state to re-evaluate its funding formula to ensure that cities receive a fair and adequate share of public defense resources.





City of Lacey

2026 State Legislative Priorities

LACEY CITY COUNCIL

Andy Ryder, Mayor
Malcolm Miller, Deputy Mayor
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www.CityofLacey.org

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We 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 they have today. We recommend that community members read the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854.

1. Thurston County Regional Basic Law Enforcement Academies at the Lacey Regional Training Center

Police departments across Washington state continue to face significant staffing shortages. As communities grow and more law enforcement personnel retire, the state's Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) must receive adequate funding to provide training opportunities for new hires. Regional academies help reduce academy wait times and officer vacancy rates, and enhance local officer recruitment efforts. They also improve equity in training by enabling greater participation from local community members, eliminating the need for extended time away from home. In addition, establishing a regional BLEA in Lacey would be an effective use of limited public dollars, as we will have a new, purpose-built training center in early 2026. This would expedite an academy start date. Lacey is ideally located to serve five contiguous counties throughout the South Sound region. **We request an annual allocation of \$1,000,000 for the Criminal Justice Training Center (CJTC) to operate a regional BLEA academy at the Lacey Training Facility for five years.** After five years, CJTC could reevaluate the impact of regional facilities and the status of potential upgrades to the main CTJC campus.

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We appreciate the state's continued leadership in responding to the homeless crisis, including funding for Maple Court. **We strongly urge the establishment of a sustainable, long-term funding mechanism for existing Right-of-Way Initiative-funded programs, rather than relying on the instability of short-term funding.**

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6. Transportation Benefit District – Removal of Ongoing Voter Approval Requirement

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7. Public Defense Standards Impact

We are highly concerned about the impacts of the caseload limits adopted by the Washington State Supreme Court, which will reduce the number of unweighted misdemeanor cases from 400 to 120 over the next 10 years. We recognize and support the intent behind the new public defense caseload standards — to ensure quality legal representation and uphold constitutional rights. However, implementing these standards will have significant financial impacts at the local level. For the City, we estimate the changes will result in an increased annual cost of approximately \$100,000, adding up to over \$1 million in new yearly expenses by 2036. Over the ten-year implementation, the City estimates an increase of over \$4 million in total new expenses. These added costs stem primarily from the need to hire additional public defenders and support staff to comply with the lower caseload limits, as well as potential infrastructure and administrative adjustments. **We urge the Legislature and relevant agencies to recognize the funding gap created at the local level and to partner with cities to ensure this mandate is adequately and sustainably funded.** Without meaningful financial support, local jurisdictions will struggle to maintain current service levels across other essential programs while meeting the new public defense requirements. In addition, as implementation of

these standards progresses, we urge the state to re-evaluate its funding formula to ensure that **cities receive a fair and adequate share** of public defense resources.

CITY OF LACEY ALSO SUPPORTS THE TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES OF:

To be determined based on priorities

Previously have included:

- Association of Washington Cities
- South Sound Military & Communities Partnership
- Thurston County Shared Legislative Agenda
- Regional Housing Council
- Washington Recreation & Park Association
- Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC)
- LOTT Clean Water Alliance

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CITY OF LACEY

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CITY OF LACEY

2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL





CITY OF LACEY **LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL**

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

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CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the ancestral land we are on today as the traditional territory of the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek, signed in 1854, including the Nisqually Indian Tribe and Squaxin Island Tribe.

We acknowledge, remember, and must not forget those Tribal People that are named but not recognized today, and who were absorbed or relocated into other tribes for survival. We recognize the ancestors and their descendants who are still here.

We acknowledge, Indigenous People who called the land home before the arrival of settlers and have been here Since Time Immemorial.

We recognize the relationship that exists between Indigenous People and their traditional territories, which include the religious significance, self-determination, identity, and economic factors. The relationship helps all people heal from the past and learn how not to inflict new wounds today.

We recognize and respect Indigenous People as traditional stewards of this land, and acknowledge the Tribal Governments and their role today in taking care of these lands. We recognize that this land acknowledgement, and the Nisqually-Lacey Accord of 2011, are small steps toward true allyship. We commit to partnering with the Tribal People of the Treaty of Medicine Creek to continue to uplift the voices, experience, and histories of indigenous people of this land and beyond.

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 they have today. We recommend that community members read the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854.

Visit www.CityofLacey.org/LandAcknowledgement for more information.



CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

Contents

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	2
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	5
<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Protection of Local Funding for State-Mandated Responsibilities</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Public Records and Open Meetings</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Modernizing Public Notice and Ordinance Publishing Requirements</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Prevent Liability Expansion, pursue crucial liability reforms</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Continue funding for the Defense Community Compatibility Account (DCCA)</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>LEED Building Standard</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Public Defense Standards</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Increase the availability of affordable and accessible childcare</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>PERS 1 Cost of Living Adjustment</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Unsustainable, unfunded Mandates: Focus on Community-based Decision Making</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Support for Permanent Public Facility District (PFD) Funding</i>	<i>8</i>
AFFORDABLE HOUSING HOUSING SERVICES	8
<i>Develop Long-term Funding Solutions for Right of Way Initiative-funded Programs</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Other Support for Homelessness Services</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Unfunded Social Service Mandates</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Quality Affordable Housing</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Landlord Tenant Act Update</i>	<i>9</i>
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	9
<i>Annexation Sales and Use Tax Credit Extension</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Economic Development Tools</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Climate Resources and Tools</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Airport Siting Concerns</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Lacey MakerSpace</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Project Timeline Review</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Emergency and Transitional Housing Regulation Authority</i>	<i>11</i>
PARKS, CULTURE AND RECREATION COMMUNITY SERVICES	11
<i>Park and Recreation Funding</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Youth Recreational Facilities Grant Program – Eligibility Clarification</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Active Transportation Funding</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Additional Public Facilities District (PFD) Extension</i>	<i>12</i>
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	13



CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

<i>15 Corridor: Mounts Road to Tumwater and the Nisqually River Delta</i>	13
<i>Transportation Benefit District – Removal of Ongoing Voter Approval Requirement</i>	13
<i>Stormwater and Culvert Funding</i>	13
<i>Public Property and Rights of Way Control</i>	13
<i>Definition of Public Works</i>	13
<i>Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) Model</i>	14
FINANCE	14
<i>Business Tax Simplification</i>	14
<i>State-Shared Revenues</i>	14
<i>General Fund Revenue</i>	14
PUBLIC SAFETY	15
<i>OPERATING REQUEST: Thurston County Regional Basic Law Enforcement Academies and Training Center</i>	15
<i>Local Law Enforcement Grant Program Update</i>	15
<i>Authorize Sustainable Animal Control and Sheltering Funding Mechanism</i>	15
<i>Joint Animal Services: Regional Animal Facility</i>	16
<i>Expand Behavioral health access and funding</i>	16
<i>Address Law Enforcement Vehicle Pursuits</i>	16
<i>Non-moving Violation Traffic Stops</i>	16
<i>Auto-theft prevention and enforcement programs</i>	17
<i>School Resource Officers</i>	17
<i>Binding Interest Arbitration</i>	17
<i>Officer recruitment and retention</i>	17
<i>Jail and Court Costs</i>	17
<i>Office of Independent Investigation (OII)</i>	17



CITY OF LACEY

LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Local Authority

The City supports preserving the authority of local governments regarding local taxation, land use planning, zoning and regulation consistent with the GMA (RCW 36.70A) and SEPA (RCW 43.21C.)

Protection of Local Funding for State-Mandated Responsibilities

The City opposes any state actions that redirect or repurpose historically allocated local funding—such as formula-based grants—toward state agency operations or new competitive processes that diminish predictable support for local governments (examples: Department of Ecology Formula Grants and HEAR Program Funding Shift). When the state reallocates or reappropriates these funds, local jurisdictions are left to carry out state-mandated responsibilities without the resources previously allocated for this purpose. This practice threatens local compliance with statutory and comprehensive plan requirements, including climate and environmental mandates, by reducing reliable access to the funding necessary for implementation. The City supports preserving dedicated, formula-based funding for local governments to ensure consistent, equitable, and effective delivery of state-mandated programs.

Public Records and Open Meetings

The City respects the right of the public to have access to legitimate public records and documents. The City believes its ability to recover the costs of searching for, gathering and reviewing requested documents is also in the public's interest. The City supports reasonable reforms to the Public Records Act. The City opposes requiring the recording of executive sessions or other restrictions on legitimate uses of executive sessions.

Modernizing Public Notice and Ordinance Publishing Requirements

The City supports legislation that removes the requirement for the City to publish notices and ordinances in a designated “paper of record” and instead allows official notices to be posted on the City's website. This change increases transparency, removes paywall barriers for the public, and reflects modern, accessible communication practices.

Prevent Liability Expansion, pursue crucial liability reforms

The City is staunchly opposed to legislation that would modify the accrual date for interest on tort judgments to the date the cause of action, such as 2023's SB5059.

The City is a member of Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA), a risk pool made up of 165 municipal entities across the state. The civil litigation environment is bad and getting worse for public entities in the State of Washington. Multimillion-dollar verdicts, also known as nuclear verdicts, were not common against public entities and were often awarded



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against large for-profit private corporations. Over the last several years public entities have now been hit with nuclear verdicts. Risk pools are shouldering millions of dollars of exposure that are being passed down to their members in terms of additional assessments. The additional costs mean that our community is diverting money from community priorities to fund WCIA's assessment. Our pool relies on partnering with traditional insurance to provide further coverage above their self-funded \$4 million per loss. Those traditional insurance carriers are either refusing to write any coverage or doing so at significant costs. The future outlook is that our communities will have less coverage and will need to redirect money to cover losses rather than providing valuable services, programs, and much-needed maintenance.

The City requests opposing any efforts to expand tort law liability and/or the remedies available under tort law. If expansions are approved by the legislature, then the State should consider creating a fund to cover those costs. Cities and their risk pools cannot be expected to shoulder the staggering costs imposed by legislative changes. At a minimum that State should provide a reinsurance fund that risk pools and individual entities could utilize. Tort reform for all public entities needs to be addressed and the balance restored between protecting harmed individuals with reasonable verdicts and appropriate defenses. Tort reform could include:

- Caps on the amount of damages that can be collected against public entities (which is law in 33 States)
- Reinstating immunities that have been eroded by the courts and amending the law on joint and several liability which incentivizes claims against public entities as deep pockets.

Continue funding for the Defense Community Compatibility Account (DCCA)

The 2023-25 Capital Budget invests \$35.8 million in defense community compatibility projects throughout the state. This investment leverages over \$126 million in local and federal funds, including the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP). The City requests the State legislature prioritize ongoing investment in this grant program that supports civilian communities near military installations. In the future, the DCCA and DCIP could serve as important funding opportunities for the Lacey Education and Family Center (LEAF).

LEED Building Standard

Since 2005, the State has required LEED Silver certification for all new state agencies, state colleges and universities, and K-12 school construction and major renovation projects over 5,000 square feet. While the City recognizes the need for making buildings more efficient to reduce costs and lower pollution from fossil fuels, we believe that there are other meaningful



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and more cost-effective metrics and standards that could be used in lieu of the expensive and cumbersome LEED rating system.

Public Defense Standards

We are highly concerned about the impacts of the caseload limits adopted by the Washington State Supreme Court, which will reduce the number of unweighted misdemeanor cases from 400 to 120 over the next 10 years. We recognize and support the intent behind the new public defense caseload standards — to ensure quality legal representation and uphold constitutional rights. However, implementing these standards will have significant financial impacts at the local level. For the City, we estimate the changes will result in an increased annual cost of approximately \$100,000, adding up to over \$1 million in new yearly expenses by 2036. Over the ten-year implementation, the City estimates an increase of over \$4 million in total new expenses. These added costs stem primarily from the need to hire additional public defenders and support staff to comply with the lower caseload limits, as well as potential infrastructure and administrative adjustments. We urge the Legislature and relevant agencies to recognize the funding gap created at the local level and to partner with cities to ensure this mandate is adequately and sustainably funded. Without meaningful financial support, local jurisdictions will struggle to maintain current service levels across other essential programs while meeting the new public defense requirements. In addition, as implementation of these standards progresses, we urge the state to re-evaluate its funding formula to ensure that **cities receive a fair and adequate share** of public defense resources.

Increase the availability of affordable and accessible childcare

We support efforts to increase affordable childcare access statewide. This includes providing state funding to construct new facilities, supporting programs that prioritize access for working families and low- to moderate-income community members, incentives to enable private and public partnerships, and increasing access to state-subsidized childcare slots. In Thurston County, data shows that 15.32% of the necessary infant care supply is available, 19.78% of the required toddler care supply is accessible, 29.99% of the needed preschool care is provided, and 10.28% of the requisite school-age care is available.

PERS 1 Cost of Living Adjustment

The City supports COLAs for PERS 1 retirees to lessen the impact of inflation on their benefits; however, with AWC, the City opposes PERS 1 COLA plans funded by the Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) surcharge. The UAAL surcharge impacts current local government budgets, including the City's, to pay for unplanned benefit increases. Recent legislation was expected to mostly phase out UAAL surcharges. According to past fiscal analysis, a permanent PERS 1 COLA funded by the UAAL surcharge would cost local governments an additional \$1.27 billion over the next 15 years.



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Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

Unsustainable, unfunded Mandates: Focus on Community-based Decision Making

We are committed to providing high-quality services to our community members. However, state-imposed unfunded mandates continue to strain our limited resources, diverting critical funds from community-led priorities. These mandates require us to implement new programs or comply with regulations—often without any accompanying funding. This puts pressure on our local budget and forces us to make difficult decisions, such as cutting services or delaying infrastructure projects. While we recognize the intent behind many of these mandates, we believe that state policies should be accompanied by the necessary funding to implement them effectively. Local governments need flexibility and support—not one-size-fits-all requirements that don't account for our fiscal realities.

We are seriously concerned about:

- State Right-of-Way maintenance and other programming responsibility
- Long-term sustainability of Encampment Resolution Program
- Continued changes to land use and the Growth Management Act
- Vague Homeless Response laws
- Prohibitions on the use of Artificial Intelligence

Support for Permanent Public Facility District (PFD) Funding

Public Facility Districts (PFDs) are vital tools that allow local jurisdictions to finance and operate regional venues such as convention centers, stadiums, performing arts centers, and other community assets. The Capital Facilities District (CAR-PFD) helps fund the Regional Athletic Complex in Lacey. These facilities generate significant economic, cultural, and tourism benefits, supporting local jobs and driving regional growth. PFDs rely primarily on a state-authorized local sales tax rebate to fund capital construction and ongoing maintenance. However, the current statutory authority is subject to eventual expiration, creating long-term uncertainty. We request that the PFD funding authority be permanent. Stable, long-term funding is essential for responsible planning, debt repayment, and the continued viability of these community-serving facilities.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING | HOUSING SERVICES

Develop Long-term Funding Solutions for Right of Way Initiative-funded Programs

We appreciate the state's continued leadership in responding to the homeless crisis, including funding for Maple Court. We strongly urge the establishment of a sustainable, long-term funding mechanism for existing Right-of-Way Initiative-funded programs, rather than relying on the instability of short-term funding.



CITY OF LACEY

LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

Other Support for Homelessness Services

The City allocates approximately 2% of its general fund to support social services in the community that benefit low-income and vulnerable community members. The City requests the state's partnership in supporting programs and services that help prevent temporary and recurrent homelessness.

Unfunded Social Service Mandates

While recognizing that there is a significant need for enhanced social services throughout Washington, the City strongly opposes any unfunded state mandates regarding behavioral health, crisis relief, housing and shelter, co-responder programs, and employment services. The City supports working with the State Legislature to create state-led, sustainable tools and resources.

Quality Affordable Housing

The City supports legislation that incentivizes developers to build affordable housing, such as the multifamily housing tax exemption, and funding allocated for public and nonprofit affordable housing, including the Housing Trust Fund.

Landlord Tenant Act Update

We respectfully request that the state legislature amend the Landlord-Tenant Act to explicitly exempt emergency and transitional shelters from its provisions. These facilities provide critical, temporary housing and services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and are fundamentally different from traditional landlord-tenant arrangements. Clarifying this exemption will help ensure shelters can operate effectively, maintain safety standards, and focus on providing supportive services without being constrained by regulations intended for long-term residential leases.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Annexation Sales and Use Tax Credit Extension

We appreciate the inclusion of the sales and use tax credit in HB 1425 (2024), which provides critical support for cities undertaking annexations. To ensure cities and counties have sufficient time to thoughtfully and collaboratively evaluate and implement these complex processes, we respectfully request extending the sunset date from July 1, 2028, to July 1, 2038. Based on the 2023-2024 state annexation data, no jurisdictions have met the threshold to use this tax credit, demonstrating the need for additional time to support implementation.

Economic Development Tools

The City supports robust and sustainable funding for the Economic Development Strategic Reserve Fund, Tax Increment Financing, Community Economic Revitalization Board, Public



CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

Works Assistance Account, Public Facility Districts, and other programs that assist local governments in neighborhood residential and commercial area rehabilitation. The City also supports legislation that provides optional economic development tools for cities, such as the multi-family housing tax incentive, lodging tax, the Main Street Act, complete streets grant program, community facility financing, shared state revenue for construction of convention and special event centers, additional shared state revenue for public facility improvements, etc. In addition, the City partners with entities such as the Thurston Economic Development Council and other regional organizations — that work directly with micro-enterprises, small businesses, and entrepreneurs and encourages state investment in these organizations to help strengthen the broader economic development ecosystem in Thurston County.

Climate Resources and Tools

Climate change is already affecting our communities. Impacts like hotter summers, wildfire smoke, and flooding endanger our homes and affect public health and local businesses. Lacey, Thurston County, Olympia, and Tumwater partnered to create the Thurston Climate Action Plan to reduce climate-polluting greenhouse gases while maintaining—and even improving—the quality of life. The Thurston Climate Action Plan includes mitigation and action strategies that are ready for implementation. However, some of the most impactful greenhouse gas-reduction projects and programs are not feasible due to funding limitations. The City supports the creation of a sustainable state program using unallocated Climate Commitment Act funds, or other state resources, to fund local climate capital projects that enhance community resiliency. The City also supports the state working with local governments for future climate initiatives in the transition to green energy alternatives to ensure solutions are feasible for all parties.

The City supports building electrification programs that complement the funding in the federal Inflation Reduction Act and help residents and building owners transition to all-electric buildings, with an emphasis on ensuring low- and moderate-income residents, multifamily housing, and small businesses are prioritized.

The City also supports Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle electrification incentive programs that would provide vouchers that purchasers can use at participating dealers.

Airport Siting Concerns

The City, along with Thurston County and the cities of Olympia, Tumwater, Rainier, Yelm, Tenino, and the town of Bucoda, opposed the former Commercial Aviation Coordination Commission's (CACC) Thurston County two-runway airport expansion site. An airport in Thurston County would endanger environmentally sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands, prairies, and endangered species), further reduce rapidly dwindling agricultural lands, worsen environmental health challenges, exacerbate existing health disparities, and irrevocably



CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

damage the quality of life for Thurston County community members. In addition, the City will oppose any recommendations that are incompatible with the operations of a military installation, including Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Lacey MakerSpace

Lacey MakerSpace, currently serving members in Pierce, Thurston, Lewis, and Mason Counties, is a collaborative “innovator’s workshop” designed to support small businesses, entrepreneurs, artists, product developers, and manufacturers. Lacey MakerSpace endeavors to 1) reduce barriers for community members by offering instruction and access to state-of-the-art fabrication and prototyping equipment, 2) develop new workforce training and apprenticeship programs aimed at growing advanced manufacturing businesses in the region, 3) foster collaboration and outreach as a hub of a larger ecosystem of business and networking services. Since opening its doors in 2019, every year Lacey MakerSpace has grown and increased its impact on our region’s economic development and workforce readiness. To enhance operations over the next few years to meet future growth and workforce needs, Thurston County partners have diligently worked to obtain funding to expand the footprint of the MakerSpace to over 9500 square feet and obtain additional advanced manufacturing technologies. The Thurston County partners are requesting the creation of a grant program that would allow innovation spaces, like Lacey MakerSpace, to continue to provide and enhance workforce training and development opportunities throughout the state.

Project Timeline Review

The City prides itself on being responsive to all forms of public service, including land-use project reviews. Now that Cities have implemented the time requirements established in SB5290. Developing a statewide system that could collect the local data electronically and consistently would reduce the burden of the manual process created by the Department of Commerce for reporting.

Emergency and Transitional Housing Regulation Authority

The City opposes any legislation that would diminish local authority over the siting of emergency and transitional housing. We also oppose any provisions that allow such facilities to be permitted by right in all locations or at any scale.

PARKS, CULTURE AND RECREATION | COMMUNITY SERVICES

The City has worked to create more equitable access to parks for all community members. The City’s investments in local parks and requested state partnership reflect work toward this goal.



CITY OF LACEY

LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

Park and Recreation Funding

The City supports ongoing funding for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), Aquatic Land Enhancement Account (ALEA), Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), and the Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF) grant programs. The City supports ongoing funding for:

- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)
- Aquatic Land Enhancement Fund (ALEA)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Youth Athletic Fund (YAF):
- Community Outdoor Athletic Facilities program (COAF)
- No Child Left Inside (NCLI)
- Recreation Access Grant

Youth Recreational Facilities Grant Program – Eligibility Clarification

The City supports a legislative fix to resolve inconsistencies in RCW 43.63A.135 that have led the Department of Commerce to narrow eligibility for the Youth Recreational Facilities Grant Program. While the program is intended to prioritize nonprofit youth organizations, the current interpretation excludes other eligible entities, including local governments. The City supports clarifying that public agencies may apply for these grants, which cover up to 25% of project costs.

Active Transportation Funding

The City supports the inclusion of parks in future funding allocations of “Active Transportation” components of the Move Ahead Washington package to support local trails and projects that extend out of the road right of way for safe routes to schools, parks and other business and community centers that can reduce local travel.

Additional Public Facilities District (PFD) Extension

E2SSB 5001 (2023–2024) amended Chapter 35 RCW to allow jurisdictions with an existing PFD to create a second district before July 1, 2026, specifically to support regional aquatics and sports facilities. Because multi-jurisdictional planning and interlocal agreements take substantial time to develop, very few—if any—agencies have been able to utilize this new authority within the short window provided. Extending the deadline to July 1, 2028, or beyond, would preserve the Legislature’s intent and allow agencies the opportunity to appropriately consider and develop projects.



CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

I5 Corridor: Mounts Road to Tumwater and the Nisqually River Delta

Interstate 5 (I-5) is the lifeline of commerce, transportation, and JBLM's mission readiness in the Puget Sound Region. Maintaining existing funding for this project is vital. Additionally, completing the three planned roundabouts on SR 507 is crucial for enhancing safety and improving traffic flow between Pierce and Thurston counties. This corridor serves as a critical alternate route during I-5 congestion or closure, providing vital secondary access to Joint Base Lewis-McChord. For the project to progress, \$33.7M is needed in the 2027-29 biennium.

Transportation Benefit District – Removal of Ongoing Voter Approval Requirement

We, like other local jurisdictions across Washington, rely on Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs) to fund critical transportation infrastructure and maintenance. TBDs enable cities to address aging infrastructure and growing transportation demands with dedicated, locally controlled funding sources. We respectfully request that the TBD statutes be amended to remove recurring voter approval requirements and to make extensions councilmanic. This change would bring TBD revenue tools into better alignment with other local sales tax authorities, such as those for public safety, which do not require repeated voter reauthorization. It would also reduce administrative burdens, election costs, and the risk of service disruption caused by funding uncertainty. Transportation improvements are long-term investments that demand stable, predictable funding streams. Gas tax revenue — the only dedicated funding source for transportation — has steadily declined for years, highlighting the urgent need to identify more stable and sustainable funding alternatives.

Stormwater and Culvert Funding

Cities have significant stormwater and culvert funding needs. The City joins AWC in requesting secure, ongoing and sufficient funding for city culvert repair and replacement. The City supports funding for current and new grant programs for local stormwater and culvert projects.

Public Property and Rights of Way Control

The City opposes any efforts that would diminish the City's control of public property and rights of way.

Definition of Public Works

The City opposes expanding public works projects to include work supported in whole or in part by grants or loans of public dollars, or by tax deferral or reimbursement. This would cause significant increased costs for local governments without adding any substantial public benefit. Additionally, the proposed changes would be a disincentive to non-profits and developers seeking to use property tax exemptions and other financial tools designed to



CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

specifically incentivize the construction of multi-family housing and other affordable housing options.

Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) Model

As the State Legislature considers VMT, the City requests that City perspectives be included in future stakeholder discussions.

FINANCE

Business Tax Simplification

The City supports business tax simplification across the state, provided that changes are, at a minimum, revenue-neutral for the City.

State-Shared Revenues

Cities have relied on state-shared revenues to provide critical funding for essential public services. Recognizing that the state is facing a budget shortfall, it is critical that commitments to sharing revenues with local governments be honored. During the last recession, the state reduced state-shared revenues when many local governments were already struggling to maintain basic services. The City joins AWC in supporting restoration and continued appropriation of committed state shared funds, such as Liquor Excise Taxes and Profits, City-County Assistance Account, Municipal Criminal Justice Account, Annexation Sales Tax Credit, and public health funding. State-shared revenues are used to support city activities, including police, infrastructure development, public defenders, and municipal court.

General Fund Revenue

The City supports legislation that will increase, expand, or favorably restructure its revenue-raising ability. In consideration of 1) the continued growth in demand for services that exceed revenue growth and inflation, and 2) intimate knowledge of individual community needs, the City supports unrestricted uses of all general government tax revenue.



CITY OF LACEY LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

PUBLIC SAFETY

OPERATING REQUEST: Thurston County Regional Basic Law Enforcement Academies and Training Center

Police departments across Washington state continue to face significant staffing shortages. As communities grow and more law enforcement personnel retire, the state's Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) must receive adequate funding to provide training opportunities for new hires. Regional academies help reduce academy wait times and officer vacancy rates, and enhance local officer recruitment efforts. They also improve equity in training by enabling greater participation from local community members, eliminating the need for extended time away from home. In addition, establishing a regional BLEA in Lacey would be an effective use of limited public dollars, as we will have a new, purpose-built training center in early 2026. This would expedite an academy start date. Lacey is ideally located to serve five contiguous counties throughout the South Sound region. We request an annual allocation of \$1,000,000 for the Criminal Justice Training Center (CJTC) to operate a regional BLEA academy at the Lacey Training Facility for five years. After five years, CJTC could reevaluate the impact of regional facilities and the status of potential upgrades to the main CTJC campus.

Local Law Enforcement Grant Program Update

We urge amending the Local Law Enforcement Grant Program to prioritize funding for WASPC-accredited agencies. Accreditation requires departments to meet established best practices in policing — covering everything from use-of-force policies to officer training, improving operational efficiencies, reducing risk and liability, and increasing community engagement. It also affirms that a department operates with transparency, accountability, and commitment to continuous improvement. Providing prioritization for accredited agencies would incentivize accreditation, improving public safety in the state. We also recommend the grant funding period extend 36 months from the date an entity receives grant funding to maximize the benefits of increased public safety impacts.

Authorize Sustainable Animal Control and Sheltering Funding Mechanism

We request the creation of a dedicated funding mechanism to support animal control and sheltering. This funding would help support the ongoing operations and capital planning for Joint Animal Services (JAS). JAS established in 1977, is operated by the cities of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Thurston County. JAS has an 8,000 sq. ft. facility that serves as the community's primary shelter for animal rescues and homeless pets. The agency serves almost 304,000 residents in 774 square miles of urban and rural terrain.



CITY OF LACEY

LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

Joint Animal Services: Regional Animal Facility

Joint Animal Services (JAS) is the animal shelter and control agency for the cities of Lacey, Tumwater, and Olympia, and unincorporated Thurston County ("Partners"). It serves over 303,976 community members in 774 square miles of urban and rural terrain. JAS provides humane law enforcement, sheltering, and medical care of strays (intake of over 2,600 animals in 2022), impounded and surrendered animals, adoption services, pet licensing, temporary emergency housing, and more. In 1996, JAS moved into its existing facility, a former warehouse. In addition to not meeting animal standards of care, a recent study found the facility is failing and requires significant investment to maintain. With the growth of the community, JAS operations have outgrown the space. A space needs assessment will take place in early 2025. This will determine facility needs and construction costs, estimated at \$25+ million. Facility design is anticipated to cost around \$2 million. The City, with its partners, requests \$2,000,000 for facility design.

Expand Behavioral health access and funding

With AWC, the City supports greater access to the entire continuum of behavioral health services and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment for adults and juveniles, including crisis treatment, inpatient, intensive outpatient, and ongoing behavioral and mental health treatment and SUD treatment. This includes, but is not limited to, support to improve workforce and staffing issues at community treatment centers, and additional state funding for the establishment and expansion of treatment facilities.

Address Law Enforcement Vehicle Pursuits

The City supports recent revisions to state law empowering law enforcement to engage in vehicle pursuits under proper supervision and using risk/benefit analysis to continue an active pursuit. Cities will continue to support safety standards and training for officers who engage in vehicle pursuits.

Non-moving Violation Traffic Stops

The City opposes any effort to restrict or eliminate the ability of local law enforcement to conduct traffic enforcement for non-moving violations. This would remove the ability of the City to ensure that all vehicles operating on our public roadways are mechanically safe, as well as being properly registered and licensed. Further, the City has a public safety interest to reduce injuries from traffic collisions by confirming that drivers are wearing their seatbelts and are not operating vehicles while distracted. The City is committed to protecting the environment and has a vested interest in ensuring that vehicles operating upon its public roadways are not producing excessive audible or climate-altering exhaust pollution due to vehicle operators bypassing manufacturer-installed pollution control systems.



CITY OF LACEY

LEGISLATIVE POLICY MANUAL

Adopted by the Lacey City Council on December X, 2025

Auto-theft prevention and enforcement programs

The City supports additional tools to address auto theft and property crime, including additional investment in auto-theft prevention and enforcement programs, regional property crimes task forces, and prosecution, public defense, and judicial resources.

School Resource Officers

While the City participates in a highly effective program with North Thurston Public Schools to offer School Resource Officers (SROs) at each of the high schools, the City opposes any legislation mandating SROs that add an unfunded mandate and exacerbate the existing officer shortage across Washington state.

Binding Interest Arbitration

The City recognizes the importance of having a tool to help resolve potentially devastating strikes by essential service personnel, such as police and firefighters. The City opposes expanding binding arbitration and supports revising the current arbitration system, including creating a system to review the qualifications, standards, and performance of appointed arbitrators to reduce bias, enhance equity, and achieve objective decision-making.

Officer recruitment and retention

The City supports additional funding tools and resources to support officer recruitment and retention.

Jail and Court Costs

The City supports legislative proposals that reduce jail and court costs, and maintain its flexibility in providing jail and court services. The City also supports maintaining the flexibility to select the most appropriate way to provide jail services.

Office of Independent Investigation (OII)

The City supports independent and transparent investigations into the use of deadly force by law enforcement. The City holds that it is unreasonable to expect local jurisdictions to assist OII with their investigations of other jurisdictions' law enforcement without compensation. Further, the City believes it is unreasonable not to provide the assisting jurisdiction with the same level of liability granted to OII and its personnel.



LACEY CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION

November 25, 2025

SUBJECT: Regional Athletic Complex (RAC) Improvements

RECOMMENDATION: Briefing on RAC Improvements 30% Design

STAFF CONTACT: Rick Walk, City Manager *RW*
Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture & Recreation Director *JB*
Scott Egger, Public Works Director *SE*
Troy Woo, Finance Director *TW*

ORIGINATED BY: Parks, Culture & Recreation Department

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Public Facilities District (PFD) Funding Timeline
2. Preliminary 30% Design Narrative
3. Preliminary 30% Design Estimate

FISCAL NOTE: RAC Improvements will be financed by PFD restricted sales tax revenue supported bond issuance. The amount of debt and payment structure will be determined by the scope of capital improvements. Some minimal funds are available from a previously scoped project.

PRIOR REVIEW: April 23, 2024 City Council Worksession and associated prior review:

[City Council Worksession • City of Lacey • CivicClerk](#)

June 10, 2025 City Council Worksession and associated prior review:

[City Council Worksession • City of Lacey • CivicClerk](#)

BACKGROUND:

At the June 10, 2025 City Council Worksession, City Council gave direction for staff to develop RAC Improvements focused on the current RAC property with a main focus of converting natural grass soccer field #2 to synthetic turf and adding lights with the purpose of extending the field use hours to community groups. The base project also includes the addition of seating for increased spectator capacity, and various fencing upgrades.

Various add alternates are being considered and may be awarded depending on pricing. These include WiFi upgrades and expansion, hardscape improvements, and additional fencing upgrades should adequate funding be available.

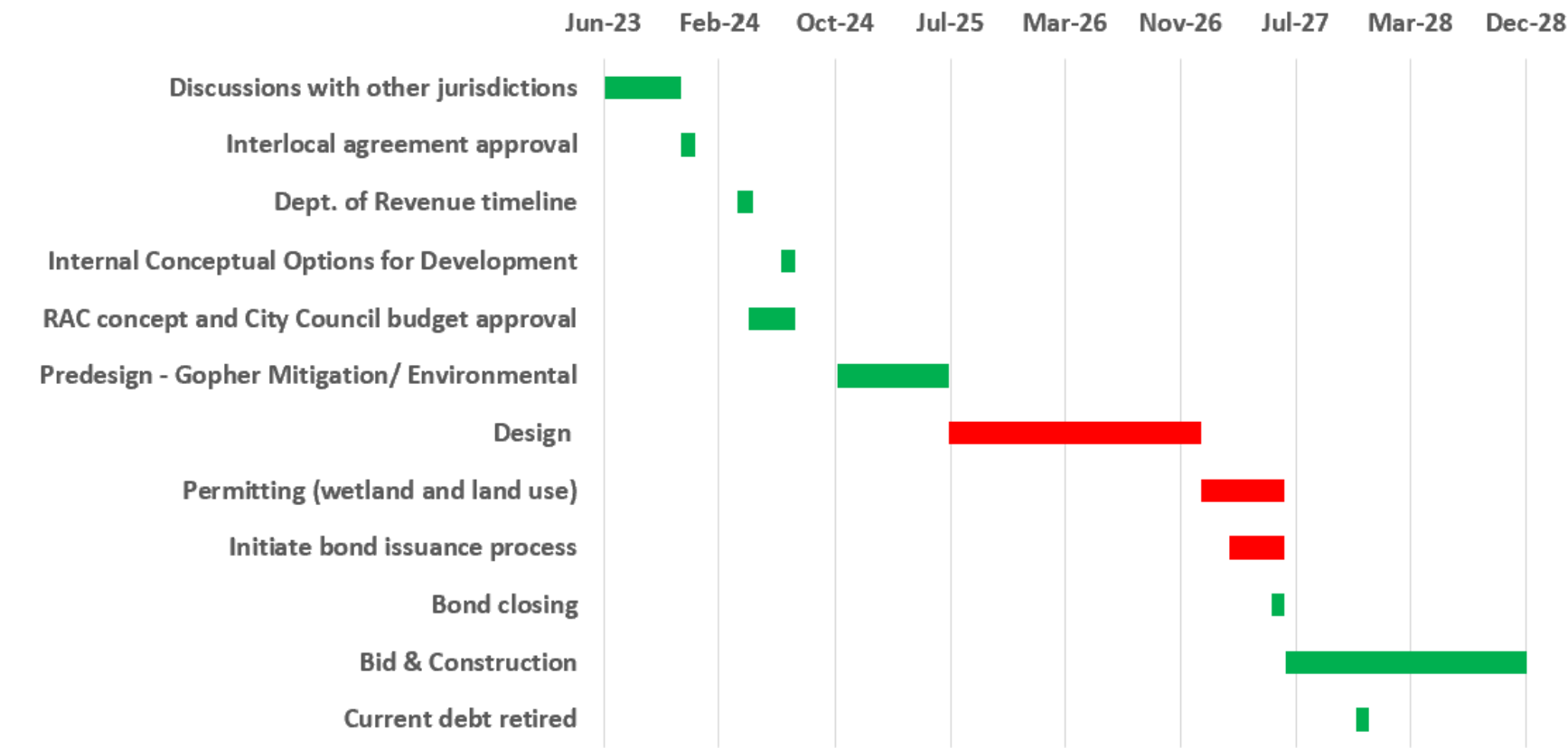
Council also directed staff to determine high level cost estimates for additional future improvements that would allow for competitive teams to use the facility with the goal of increased economic impact.

Design consultant, SCJ Alliance, has provided these deliverables. The updated design concepts will be presented to the City Council at the November 25, 2025 City Council Worksession along with estimates for total cost of design and construction. Staff will also provide information on the projected financial capacity of the PFD sales tax revenue to issue debt for capital improvements.

The focus of the worksession is to update City Council on progress of the project in order to stay on track to move to the 60% design process in January and in turn stay on time for the PFD funding opportunity. Staff can then move further in the development of construction plans.

In order to preserve the PFD bonding the City will need to issue debt in June of 2027. To meet this deadline, staff started the construction design process in July of 2025, and will move on to 60% design stage in January of 2026.

Public Facilities District Sales Tax Extension Timeline



RAC Improvement 30% Design Narrative

Base Bid Turf Field and Site Improvements

The base bid encompasses the essential upgrades necessary to support the conversion of an existing soccer field to synthetic turf and to enhance seating and spectator amenities on Field 1. These improvements set up a functional foundation for the site, allowing for phased expansion and future enhancements that would transform the soccer complex into a premier, destination-level facility. The planned upgrades are designed to accommodate tournament play, championship events, and high-use community and school programs, while providing the infrastructure needed to support more amenities, expanded seating, and operational enhancements over time. By implementing these base improvements, the project sets the stage for a cohesive, high-performance athletic complex that meets both current needs and long-term vision for regional sports programming.

Soccer Field 2 Improvements

The project involves the replacement of the existing natural grass field with a high-performance synthetic turf system, providing improved playability, durability, and drainage. The design includes the removal of existing natural turf field material to accommodate a new subsurface drainage system. This system features laterals set in drainage gravel, directing stormwater to a collector for controlled distribution to a holding area, ensuring efficient water management and minimizing surface runoff.

Field 2 will be renovated to remove existing lawn and install an added base course for the new synthetic turf. The existing irrigation system will be retrofitted and mainlines capped in the certain areas. New quick couplers will be installed on the existing mainline to allow the field to be washed off for painted logos, cleaning, maintenance, or cooling as needed. The existing drainage will be removed and replaced with a new subsurface drainage system connected to the existing and expanded infrastructure. The new synthetic turf will match the existing turf on site and will be installed over free-draining subsurface base. A continuous concrete curb and nailer board will be provided around the entire perimeter of the field. Fencing and gates will be installed within the concrete curb to secure the field from unauthorized use. The turf will be anchored and secured to the nailer board system to ensure long-term stability and performance.

Site improvements include the addition of three new poles and light fixtures and the reconfiguration of seating areas to improve spectator access and circulation. This will also include a 4' fence around field 2 to match field one.

The turf area will be maximized to accommodate two fields, each measuring approximately 225 feet by 360 feet, with 14.5-foot runoffs on all sides to meet safety and play requirements. Site grading and stormwater collection improvements will support the expanded turf footprint and support proper drainage throughout the complex.

Sports Field Lighting

It is anticipated that LED sports field lighting will be installed at Fields 1 and 2. Lighting levels are expected to achieve a minimum of at 50 FC.

The base bid retains the existing light poles while adding three new poles along the east side of Field 2.

Baseball Outfield Posts and Netting:

Fields 1 and 2 will receive new outfield posts and netting. Field 1 currently includes only partial outfield protection; the new installation will extend posts and netting to provide full coverage along the entire outfield. Field 2 will receive matching posts and netting to mirror Field 1 and protect pedestrians from errant balls.

Base Bid Alternatives

Soccer Backstops

Backstops are proposed at Fields 1, 2, and 6 to match the existing backstop found on site.

Wi-Fi Improvements:

Wi-Fi upgrades would provide throughout both the baseball and soccer complexes to support broadcasting, streaming, and internet-based connectivity.

Concrete Paving Replacement:

The existing porous concrete around the baseball complex would be removed and replaced with new concrete paving. Because the existing surface did not require drainage, new stormwater collection infrastructure will be installed as part of this work. The improvements encompass approximately 45,000 square feet and would reduce maintenance costs while enhancing circulation, safety, resilience, and accessibility throughout the complex.

Potential Future Improvements – Concession, Locker Rooms, Additional Seating and Restrooms, Concrete, and Lighting

Preliminary 30% Design Estimate

<u>Items</u>	<u>Each</u>	<u>Cumalitive Total</u>
Base Bid	\$ 7,400,000.00	\$ 7,400,000.00
Base Bid Alternatives	\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 10,900,000.00
Potential Future Improvements	\$ 21,700,000.00	\$ 32,600,000.00

Base Bid: Lighting, Turf Conversion, Seating Options, Fencing Options, Baseball Netting

Base Bid Alternatives: Soccer Backstops, Wifi Improvements, Concrete Paving Replacement

Potential Future Improvements: Additional Seating & Restrooms, Ticketing, Concessions,
Locker Rooms, Press Box



LACEY CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION

November 25, 2025

SUBJECT:	Comprehensive Plan Series: Final Draft 2025 Comprehensive Plan.
BRIEFING:	The City Council will be briefed on the Planning Commission recommendation to adopt the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. No formal action is required.
STAFF CONTACT:	Rick Walk, City Manager <i>RW</i> Vanessa Dolbee, Community and Economic Development Director <i>VD</i> Ryan Andrews, Community Planning Manager <i>RA</i> Hans Shepherd, Senior Planner <i>HS</i>
ORIGINATED BY:	Community & Economic Development Department
ATTACHMENTS:	1. Communications & Community Engagement Plan (Linked) 2. February 27, 2024 City Council Worksession (Linked) 3. April 2, 2024 City Council Meeting (Linked) 4. September 10, 2024 City Council Worksession (Linked) 5. February 4, 2025 City Council Meeting (Linked) 6. February 11, 2025 City Council Worksession (Linked) 7. April 1, 2025 City Council Meeting (Linked) 8. April 15, 2025 City Council Meeting (Linked) 9. May 6, 2025 City Council Meeting (Linked) 10. May 20, 2025 City Council Meeting (Linked) 11. August 12, 2025 City Council Worksession (Linked) 12. September 9, 2025 City Council Worksession (Linked) 13. October 8th, 2025 Public Hearing Comments (Linked) 14. October 22nd, 2025 Public Comment Staff Analysis (Linked) 15. Draft Future Land Use Map (Linked) 16. Draft 2026 Zoning Map (Linked) 17. Title 16 Zoning Draft Text Amendments (Linked) 18. Comprehensive Plan Website (Linked)
FISCAL NOTE:	The 2025 Comprehensive Plan was funded by State grants and resources allocated by the 2024 and 2025 City Budgets.

**WORK PLAN GOAL
AND STRATEGY:**

Coordinated and Collaborative Planning: Update the Comprehensive Plan and Review Development Regulations (B)

PRIOR REVIEW:

The City Council was last briefed on the development of the Comprehensive Plan at a meeting on September 9, 2025.

BACKGROUND:

The Growth Management Act (GMA) requires every city to review and update its Comprehensive Plan and associated development regulations at least once every ten years. This review is intended to address relevant changes in the GMA and respond to changes in land use and population growth.

The Revised Code of Washington ([Section 36.70A.070](#)) goes on to further identify and define the mandatory elements of the Comprehensive Plan including requirements for the designation, location, extent, intensity and general distribution of various land uses.

Once adopted, the 2025 Comprehensive Plan will include community derived goals and policies on topics ranging from climate and sustainability, transportation, economic development, housing, land uses, and capital facilities. Sections of this update will also include a Future Land Use Map based on community growth projections, zoning amendments, and code revisions.

Zoning Consistency with the Future Land-Use Map (FLUM)

For the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update, a stand-alone FLUM (*Attachment 15*) has been developed to better illustrate the long-term vision for land development and growth, guiding where different types of uses should occur within the community. In partnership with the FLUM, the Lacey Zoning Map serves as a regulatory tool that dictates what can be built and operated on a property based on the identified district and associated development standards at a given time.

While these two maps serve different functions, the zoning map needs to remain consistent with the FLUM as it works to align development trends with the identified goals of the Lacey community.



Proposed Zoning Changes

Based on the guidance of the Lacey City Council, the Planning Commission's review, and community member comments and testimony through the 2025 Comprehensive Plan planning process, amendments to the existing City of Lacey Zoning Map are being proposed. The proposed changes will bring current conditions and development trends into better alignment with the community vision for the city (*Attachment 16*).

The changes can be generally separated into three categories:

1. **Zone Consolidation** – where similar zoning designations are combined to better reflect the built-out conditions on the ground and improve the accessibility of the zoning map.
2. **Minor text amendments** – where the uses or intent of a district have changed over the last 10 years since the last Comprehensive Plan Update and minor changes are necessary to better reflect community goals and vision for the future.
3. **Community Rezone Requests** – where community members identified locations for rezone consideration as part of this update process.

In total, nine existing zoning designations have been identified for consolidation and ten have been included as part of this review with minor text amendments to better align with community priorities as illustrated through the FLUM (*Attachment 15*). These proposed changes are mapped and discussed at greater detail within the City of Lacey Future Land Use and Zoning Maps – Storymap ([Linked Here](#)).

Additionally, fifty [community rezone requests](#) underwent review as part of this update process and nine were identified for inclusion as part of the 2025 draft. These locations have been listed below and included as part of the Storymap with additional details including location, existing zoning designation, and requested zoning designation.

1. 5500 Martin Way East
2. 180 Hoh Street SE
3. 8407 Steilacoom Road SE
4. 6335 Pacific Avenue SE
5. 837 Carpenter Road SE



6. 1302 Alder Street SE
7. 5000 Mullen Road SE
8. 2802 Boat Launch Street SE
9. Long Lake Natural Area

Outreach Efforts:

In early 2024, City staff partnered with a consultant to create a Communications and Community Engagement Plan in preparation for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan planning process. The aim of the communication and engagement plan was to ensure an inclusive, informative update to the Comprehensive Plan, fostering active community participation and a sense of ownership in the final product (Attachment 1).

Early Phases (1 and 2) of community outreach took an open ended and inclusive approach, engaging with the community on topics related to quality of life and visions for the future. These discussions were held in person at hosted events, and out within the community at parks and other local gatherings. An online platform was also produced and made available for collecting additional feedback digitally. In early 2025, the update process transitioned from broad community outreach and engagement to a more targeted approach, focusing on the required elements of the Comprehensive Plan and their corresponding draft policies.

In late Spring of 2025, we transitioned from Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Plan Update process, to Phase 3 where draft materials were released back to the community for additional review and feedback. The purpose of the review was to ensure that the draft policies, FLUM, and proposed zoning changes contained in the Comprehensive Plan align with the community vision.

To help raise community awareness and ensure broad community participation, staff published information to the city website, developed informational videos, posted links through city social media platforms, distributed emails to various community groups, and attended a range of community events including the Depot District Night Market, South Sound BBQ Festival, and Lacey in Tune events at Huntamer Park.



Revised Goals and Policies:

On August 13, staff shared the feedback received from community members during Phase 3 with the Planning Commission to be considered as part of their review of the draft 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Discussion topics ranged from placing additional emphasis on non-motorized networks and associated amenities, tree protections along utility corridors, and the use of prescriptive language within the text of specific goals and policies.

Based on the guidance received through the August 12 City Council Worksession and August 13 Planning Commission review, staff amended language in the draft goals and policies section of the draft Comprehensive Plan to be more reflective of comments received through Phase 3 of the update process. These draft goals and policies can be found within the Policy Database of the Comprehensive Plan Website (*Attachment 19*).

Public Hearing and Planning Commission Recommendation:

A public hearing was held on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 6 p.m. in the Lacey Council Chambers to collect additional feedback from the community and hear directly from individuals interested in this update process.

Public comments submitted as part of the public hearing ranged from general statements of support to remaining areas of focus. Testimony covered a diversity of subjects including general themes, the use of prescriptive language, the importance of resilient actions, and site-specific feedback.

Public comments received as part of this hearing process have been included as an attachment to this staff report (*Attachment 13*). Following a review of submitted public comment, project staff collected additional information and resources to further inform the topics and concerns raised. This information can be found within Attachment 14 of this packet.

Following additional review on public comments received through the public hearing process, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended the 2025 update to the Comprehensive Plan on October 22, 2025.

NEXT STEPS:

At the November 25 Worksession, staff will brief the City Council on the Planning Commission's recommendation and provide an overview of the final draft of the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Pending Council discussion and direction, the final draft 2025 Comprehensive Plan will be scheduled for final Council action at a future regular City Council meeting.