

2018 Legislative Session Preview

Jennifer Ziegler and Debora Munguia

January 15, 2018

City of Olympia

Agenda

- Introduction
- Legislative Session Background
- 2018 Potential Legislative Issues
- Olympia Legislative Session Priorities
- Next Steps

Introduction

- Jennifer Ziegler has 23 years of legislative and government relations experience. She served as staff counsel to the Senate and House Transportation Committees, the Government Relations Director for the Washington State Department of Transportation, and Governor Christine Gregoire's Legislative Director and Transportation Policy Advisor.
- Debora Munguia has over 33 years of experience in the public and private sector. She worked in state government for 22 years, including the Office of the Secretary of State, the State Auditor's Office, the Department of Community Development (now Commerce), and the Department of Natural Resources. She worked as the Director of Government Relations for the Washington Forest Protection Association for 11 years.

Legislative Session Background

- Senate Democrats obtained a one-vote majority based on the 2017 election results.
- No change to House membership.
- Washington State Supreme Court retained jurisdiction in the McCleary case and court order continues.
- 60-day legislative session and second year of the biennium.
- No action on *Hirst* decision or Capital Budget.

2018 Potential Legislative Issues

- Education Funding and Revenue
- *Hirst* Decision
- Capital Budget
- Carbon Tax
- Affordable Housing, Homelessness and Mental Health Funding
- Small Cell Technology

City of Olympia Legislative Priorities

- State resources and support to address homelessness, affordable housing, mental health and chemical dependency services.
- Funding for new US 101 Interchange ramps in West Olympia.
- Funding and policy guidance for research and future projects to address Sea Level Rise.
- Funding to do the work of the Capital Lake/Deschutes EIS Process.
- Tying property tax revenue growth to population and inflation.

Next Steps

- Weekly legislative updates.
- Revenue forecast in mid-February and budget shortly after.
- Meetings with legislators throughout the Session.
- 60-Day legislative session scheduled to end March 8, 2018.