



# City Council Referral Request

Tracking Number **2022.0049** Date of Referral *Click or tap to enter a date.* Requester *Click or tap here to enter text.*

- Referral To
- Study Session
  - Staff
  - Community Livability & Public Safety
  - Land Use & Environment Committee
  - Work Session
  - Ad Hoc Committee on Public Safety
  - Finance Committee
  - Advisory Committee *Choose from Dropdown*

## Problem Statement

*A clear concise description of the issue(s) that need(s) to be addressed.*

*On May 2, 2022 we learned that the United States Supreme Court is likely to overturn Roe v. Wade, a landmark decision in which the Court ruled that the United States Constitution protects a pregnant woman’s liberty to choose to have an abortion without excessive government restrictions. The implications of this possible reversal include: a strain on health care clinics that provide abortion services; threats to the public safety of all persons involved in the abortion process; exacerbate the number of unwanted pregnancies coming to term; an increase in economic hardships for some women, children, and families; and potentially putting other human rights at risk in the future.*

*Olympia can demonstrate our city values, per the Comprehensive Plan’s Community Values and Visions, and exercise the capability of a local a jurisdiction to protect reproductive rights with early, thoughtful, and effective actions.*

## Request

*What is being requested to assist in addressing the issue described in the problem statement?*

- *We request that staff develop a resolution clearly stating Olympia’s position on woman’s right to choose and reproductive rights of all people*
- *We also request that staff research options regarding on what a Washington State city can enact and fund that will support choice and reproductive rights. Areas of particular interest include:*
  - *Financial assistance to reproductive right and choice providers to assist lower income/marginalized community members*
  - *Expanding our existing sanctuary city status to make Olympia a pro-choice and reproductive health sanctuary.*
  - *Balancing first amendments rights and a right to access medical care and reproductive care*
  - *Conduct outreach to local reproductive health and choice providers to learn how the city can help or partner with them to best support their services.*
  - *Actions other cities are taking across the country to support and protect choice and reproductive rights.*
- *Recommend that the Community Livability and Public Safety Committee consider adding to their future work plan such topics as: a) public safety for those seeking reproductive services and for advocates and service providers, b) strengthen strategies to prevent violence against women, c) laws and ordinances on what might constitute intimidation or a hate crime related to reproductive health and choice, and d) consult with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, County Public Health Department, and Community Youth Services on what actions they are considering related to the loss of the right of Woman’s choice and reproductive rights*

## Relationship to City Business or Proposed City Business/Services

*Describe how this will enhance what is already offered and/or what it will provide that is not currently available. Why is this the City’s issue to address? How will this create a more adaptive and resilient organization? How will this enhance the City’s work to further equity, climate, and social justice?*

*In the Community Values and Vision section of the City’s Comprehensive Plan, we support equity and working on dismantling systemic injustice. We state that “these institutional and systemic barriers are still prevalent and have resulted in a lack of equitable access to resources and opportunities” and “we are dedicated to rebuilding trust through reconciliation and making ongoing efforts to remove these barriers.”*

*These visions for Olympia’s future will not be complete if we do not protect reproductive rights and all the rights, we hold dear. We will not achieve our goals of social justice and equity for all community members.*

*Protecting people from the injustices created by the loss of a fundamental right will protect our vision for the future.*

**Connection to Comprehensive Plan**

- Community, Safety and Health**  
*Inclusive, respectful, civic participation; a safe & prepared community; health and wellness; adequate food and shelter; a quality education*
- Downtown**  
*Vibrant, attractive urban destination; a safe and welcoming downtown for all; a mix of urban housing options; a variety of businesses; connections to our cultural & historic fabric; engaging arts & entertainment experience*
- Economy**  
*Abundant local products and services; a thriving arts and entertainment industry; sustainable quality infrastructure; a stable thriving economy*
- Environment**  
*Clean water & air; a daily connection to nature; preserved quality natural areas; a toxin-free community; a waste free culture*
- Neighborhoods**  
*Distinctive places & gathering spaces; nearby goods & services; neighborhoods that are engaged in community decision making; safe and welcoming places to live*

**Options**

*Describe proposed options for moving the idea or issue forward for the meeting body to consider.*

*Have staff develop options for timely actions to be enacted directly by council or if further process or financial considerations are recommended for any of these actions have them sent to Community and Livability and Public Safety or Finance Committees*

**Timing**

*Is this issue time sensitive, are there other timing factors to consider?*

*As soon as possible as the potential action by Supreme Court could occur within the next month yet with the understanding that some of these actions could require more time to explore.*

**Supporting Documentation (Work Plan, Transportation Master Plan, Parks Plan, etc)**

*Are there documents that support your request or that should be considered?*

*Comprehensive plan Vision and Value statements*

**Councilmember Signatures**

*Two Councilmembers must support the request including the Chair of the Committee of referral. (Cannot be a committee quorum unless discussed at an open public meeting of the committee.)*

Lisa Parshley  
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Sponsoring Councilmember

1. Yén Huỳnh  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember

2. Dontae Payne  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember

**Staff Supplement**

*Staff will review the request to generate administrative impacts to be considered as part of proposal (staff to initial after their review):*

Budget Impacts: Click or tap here to enter text.

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Legal Review *(to include regulatory authority)*: Click or tap here to enter text.

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Policy implications: Click or tap here to enter text.

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Implementation Considerations: Click or tap here to enter text.

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Staff Liaison: Click or tap here to enter text.

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