

# Olympia's 2019 Legislative Agenda

Olympia

## Investing in the Capital City

- Olympia is the front door of Washington's State government.
- As the Capital City, Olympia embraces its role as host to the state.
- We value State employees and visiting citizens who work, shop, and dine in our downtown.

## Olympia City Council

Cheryl Selby, Mayor  
Nathaniel Jones, Mayor Pro Tem  
Jessica Bateman  
Jim Cooper  
Clark Gilman  
Lisa Parshley  
Renata Rollins



## Contact City Council

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## Administration

Steve Hall, City Manager  
Jay Burney, Assistant City Manager  
Susan Grisham, Executive Assistant

## 2019 Legislative Priorities:

- **State resources and support to address homelessness, affordable housing, mental health and chemical dependency services.**
  - Olympia has the highest percentage of rent-burdened households and the highest concentration of the County's homeless.
- **Funding for new US 101 Interchange ramps in West Olympia.**
  - The Cooper Point Road/Black Lake Boulevard intersection is failing.
  - Addressing congestion in this critical area requires more access from US 101 to West Olympia.
- **Funding and policy guidance for research and future projects to address Sea Level Rise.**
  - Olympia's downtown is vulnerable to widespread flooding, choking vital transportation corridors and closing our business district. The City seeks funding for a demonstration project.
- **Funding for new First Responder Regional Training Center**
  - The City of Olympia joins its partner jurisdictions in a \$4 million request for the design and construction of a Regional Training Center.

## Other Priorities Important to Olympia

### Climate Change

- The City supports bills related to climate/emissions reduction goals, including the governor's climate legislation.

### Solid Waste Legislation

- The City is tracking a number of bills on solid waste, including bills on a statewide plastic bag ban, the Recyclable Materials List, compostable product labeling, and plastic packaging.

### Grants

- The City has an interest in any transportation-related grant funding through the legislative process.

### Prevailing Wage

- AWC is working on legislation related to establishing prevailing wage rates. Proposed new prevailing wage rates for landscape professionals will substantially drive up landscaping contract costs for Olympia and other cities.

### Funding for the Capital Lake/Deschutes EIS Process.

- Local partners hope to finally find a long-term solution. However, to do that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process that engages the public must be completed.

### Condo Liability Reform

- Addressing condo liability can remove barriers to creating more affordable condominiums and expanding available housing options.

### Tiny Homes Appendix

- Adoption of Appednix V of the International Building Code will provide construction guidance of builders interested creating quality-built and safe tiny homes.

### TCOMM 911

- Thurston 911 Communications (TCOMM911) seeks to replace its Public Safety Radio System to meet FCC requirements and better serve local jurisdictions.

### Tying Property Tax Revenue Growth to Population and Inflation

- A primary revenue source for local governments, property taxes, is capped. Tying property tax revenue growth to inflation and population, provides cities the ability to continue to provide essential governmental services.

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