Mayor Cheryl Selby and Olympia City Councilmembers

RE: OPC Recommendation - Preliminary Capital Facilities Plan and 2021-2026 Financial Plan Review

Dear Mayor Selby and Olympia City Councilmembers,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Preliminary Capital Facilities Plan and 2021-2026 Financial Plan Review (CFP). We find that the CFP is consistent with the current Comprehensive Plan. We wish to commend the City staff who have pushed through extraordinary circumstances to prepare this document. We hope the following comments will guide you as you evaluate the CFP.

Changes from Previous Plans

We appreciate the permanent addition of sections for Fire and the Home Fund to the CFP. We also appreciate the inclusion of the 7-20 Year Future Needs project lists in each section. We hope that this will help guide how projects are prioritized and funded in the future.

Transportation

We commend the continued commitment to Comprehensive Plan goal Transportation 1, as demonstrated through continued investments in sidewalks. Proposed projects in this year's plan appear to dovetail well with the recent Transportation Management Plan updates.

Home Fund

While we were pleased to see the two projects listed for the Home Fund, we are concerned about the speed of projects being brought forward. Considering the promises made to the voters of Olympia regarding the Home Fund; Comprehensive Plan goal Public Service 3; the 2018 declaration of homelessness as a public health crisis; and the recent publication of the One Community Plan; we believe that more projects should be sought out and moved forward faster than the current pace. We hope you will convey these sentiments to the Home Fund advisory committee.

Thank you again for the opportunity to review the CFP; we look forward to its implementation.

The Planning Commission is honored to serve the Mayor, City Council, and people of Olympia. We look forward to helping Olympia achieve the goals expressed in the Comprehensive Plan.

Sincerely,

Candis Millar, AICP
Chair, Olympia Planning Commission