

2020 Clackamas County

State Legislative Policy Agenda



Oregon counties and the state are partners in delivering vital public services

Clackamas County is truly urban, suburban, rural, and wild. We are dedicated to welcoming new residents and businesses, and committed to delivering community services that are dependable, accessible, and equitable to the public.



Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

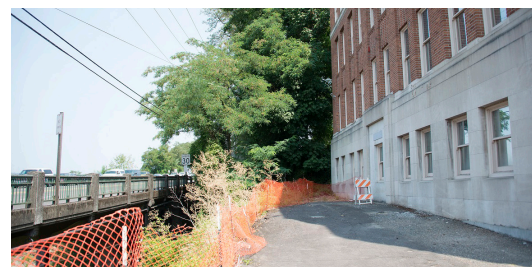
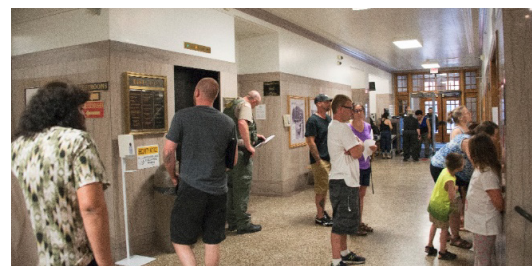
Jim Bernard – Chair Sonya Fischer Ken Humberston Paul Savas Martha Schrader

COUNTY INITIATIVES



I-205 Bottleneck Funding

Advocate for state funding to support a third lane of capacity in each direction of I-205 from Stafford Road to OR 213, including seismic improvements to the Abernethy Bridge. The Oregon portion of I-205 is a federally designated High Priority Corridor and is vital to both the Portland metropolitan region and users statewide. Without additional travel lanes, this section of I-205 will be overwhelmed by forecasted traffic volumes and will negatively impact regional freight mobility. ODOT is expected to complete design in 2020, but project construction remains unfunded.



Courthouse Replacement Project

Promote continued advancement of the Clackamas County Courthouse Replacement Project. The Oregon Legislature has provided \$32.7 million toward replacing the 81-year old, structurally-deficient building, which is supporting the design and engineering phase of the project. Clackamas County looks forward to building a new, modern courthouse that serves the needs of all county residents. The County plans to request the final installment of state matching funds for the project in the coming biennium.

COUNTY PRIORITIES

- Support the repair and reopening of the **Willamette Falls Locks**
- Support funding for **community corrections** that provides sufficient resources to sustain county programs
- Support a narrowly-crafted bill, in partnership with the City of Happy Valley, that removes Happy Valley from the **North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD)**
- Support policies and funding for **behavioral health** that sustains county programs and services for residents
- Support \$5 million in funding to sustain county programs and services that support residents with **intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD)**
- Support policies and funding to address the **housing crisis** and improve housing stability for low income households, including supportive housing services
- Support the restoration of funding for **community dispute resolution**
- Support tax relief for **disabled veterans and surviving spouses**



LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

Clackamas County's policy positions will be guided by the five strategic goals listed below. The County also will guide all policy decisions through a lens of carbon neutrality and improving equity, diversity, and inclusion in our communities.



Grow a Vibrant Economy

The county supports legislation that incentivizes businesses to grow and prosper. Successful legislation will ensure the county has dedicated resources for attracting and growing industries, and has access to an adequate supply of shovel-ready employment lands to expand economic development opportunities.



Build a Strong Infrastructure

The county supports legislation that encourages long-term investments in major infrastructure projects to improve the quality of life of county residents. Successful legislation will ease congestion, enhance seismic resiliency, spur economic growth in employment areas including the Sunrise Gateway Corridor, broaden telecommunication access, and promote science-based and ratepayer-minded water quality protections.



Honor, Utilize, Promote & Invest in our Natural Resources

The county supports legislation that ensures effective and sustainable management and conservation of our abundant natural and agricultural resources. Successful legislation will stimulate and preserve the integrity of our natural resource-based economy, incentivize the production of mass timber, reduce and sequester carbon emissions, and adhere to the public process of Oregon's land use system.



Ensure Safe, Healthy, and Secure Communities

The county supports legislation that improves the health, safety, and wellbeing of all county residents and communities. Successful legislation will support access to community assets, such as parks and libraries, and assist vulnerable populations including residents who are facing homelessness, substance abuse and addictions, behavioral health challenges, and public health threats. Legislation also should help to reduce the crime rate and recidivism, promote and sustain best practices for justice-involved individuals, improve emergency communications and disaster preparedness, and protect survivors of domestic violence.



Build Public Trust through Good Government

The county supports legislation that allocates sufficient resources to enable delivery of effective, reliable, and equitable services to county residents. Successful legislation will maintain the county's financial sustainability, provide funding for county needs including the Courthouse Replacement Project, preserve state and county shared revenue agreements, support county efforts to attract and retain qualified employees, and not preempt local tax sources or restrict local government authority.