

# 2021 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

Tootie Smith – Chair    Sonya Fischer    Paul Savas    Martha Schrader    Mark Shull



# COUNTY INITIATIVES



## Courthouse Replacement Project

Support the Oregon Judicial Department's budget request of \$94.5 million in bond funding to support the replacement of the 83-year old, structurally-deficient Clackamas County Courthouse. This final installment of funds from the Oregon Legislature will support the design, engineering, and construction phases of the project to construct a new, modern courthouse that serves the needs of all county residents.



## 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.



# COUNTY PRIORITIES

- Support funding and constituent relief to protect public health and ensure a full recovery from the **COVID-19 pandemic**
- Support policies and funding to ensure a quick and robust recovery from the 2020 **wildfires** and prevention of future wildfires
- Support the repair and reopening of the **Willamette Falls Locks**
- Support funding to establish a vision plan for the **Sunrise Gateway Corridor** that addresses mobility, livability, industrial, employment, and housing needs'
- Support policies and funding to address the **housing crisis** and improve housing stability for low income households, including supportive housing services



# LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

Clackamas County's policy positions will be guided by the five strategic goals below. The County also will center carbon neutrality and equity, diversity, and inclusion in all policy decisions.



## 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 workforce, 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 fairly 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.