

# CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## Policy Session Worksheet

**Presentation Date:** 12/06/23 **Approx. Start Time:** 10:00 a.m. **Approx. Length:** 30 min.  
**Presentation Title:** Approval of 2024 State and Federal Legislative Agendas  
**Department:** Public and Government Affairs  
**Presenters:** Trent Wilson  
**Other Invitees:** Department Directors and County Elected Officials

### **WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?**

Public and Government Affairs (PGA) is seeking adoption from the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of the county's state and federal legislative priorities for 2024.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In fall 2023, PGA worked with each County Commissioner and county department to identify potential state and federal policy and funding priorities for 2024. The proposed drafts of these priorities are included in this packet.

The 2024 state legislative session will convene on February 05, 2025 and adjourn no later than March 10, 2025. The 118<sup>th</sup> Congress convened on January 3, 2023 and is scheduled to continue until January 3, 2025.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):**

The county's state legislative agenda supports continued state/county shared revenue agreements and other funding streams that support major county programs and services. Loss of these revenues would result in potential cuts to county programs and services. The county's federal legislative agenda prioritizes key county programs and projects for potential federal funding and grant opportunities.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

- This item aligns with the Public and Government Affairs Strategic Business Plan goals to provide intergovernmental connections and relationship building, strategic policy development and messaging, legislative, advocacy, and outreach services to county elected officials and departments so they can build key partnerships to achieve policy goals important to Clackamas County, with special emphasis on the strategic results in the BCC Strategic Plan.

### **LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

N/A

### **PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:**

PGA continues to maintain close working relationships with the county's legislative delegation and staff at both the state and federal levels, all of whom are instrumental in advancing the county's legislative priorities.

### **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt the 2024 State and Federal Legislative Agendas as drafted
2. Amend the 2024 State and Federal Legislative Agendas

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Staff recommends Option #1: Adopt the 2024 State and Federal Legislative Agendas as drafted

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Draft 2024 State Legislative Policy Agenda
- Draft 2024 Federal Legislative Policy Agenda

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Division Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Department Director/Head Approval s/Sue Hildick

County Administrator Approval \_\_\_\_\_

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Sue Hildick @ 503-742-5900
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# 2024 Clackamas County State Legislative Policy Agenda

## COUNTY INITIATIVES

### Courthouse Replacement Project

Secure the full 50% match from state bonding to fund the Clackamas County Replacement Courthouse. Although steeped in history, the current courthouse is functionally obsolete, poses safety and seismic risks, and cannot accommodate our growing population. Funding in 2024 will aim to complete the state's contribution toward this project, which is on budget and on schedule to open by May 2025. This LEED Gold certified project will feature 16 courtrooms, 20 judicial chambers, and office space for state agencies such as the Oregon Office of Public Defense Services and the Oregon Department of Human Services.

### Transportation Improvement Projects

Advocate for state action to develop a long-term transportation funding plan that addresses regional congestion, resolves bottlenecks on state highways, and mitigates diversion and impacts on local traffic. Priorities for an anticipated 2025 Transportation Funding Package include:

- Opposing tolling programs as currently proposed and ensuring policies include a commitment to revenue sharing to address needed off-system improvements, mitigate diversion, and improve safety.
- Completing the I-205 Bottleneck Project in HB 2017 and supporting local priority projects, including the Sunrise Gateway Corridor.
- Prioritizing multimodal improvements in areas with little to no existing investments.

## COUNTY PRIORITIES

- Advance policies to **address the housing and homeless crisis**, and ensure a **regionally balanced approach to land use planning** to meet housing and employment land goals.
- Support action to address the impact Measure 110 has had on public safety, homelessness, and our communities and pursue funding for a **recovery-oriented system of care** that includes **public safety diversion programs**, such as crisis stabilization centers, mental health facilities and services, community-based prevention and intervention services, and juvenile prevention programs.
- Advocate for legislation that provides **sufficient and predictable revenue**, as well as reasonable liability, for local governments providing state-mandated and contracted services.
- Support legislation that creates a **standard statewide process** for county foreclosure surplus claims in response to the Supreme Court decision Tyler v. Hennepin County.

## **STATE LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES**

### **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, expand travel options, enhance seismic resiliency, spur economic growth in employment, increase housing inventory, broaden telecommunication access, and promote science-based and ratepayer-minded water quality protections.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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, reduce and sequester carbon emissions, and adhere to the public process of Oregon's land use system.

### **Build Public Trust through Good Government**

The county supports legislation that enhances the county's ability to deliver effective, reliable, and equitable services to county residents. Successful legislation will maintain the county's financial sustainability, allocate sufficient resources for county programs, preserve state and county shared revenue agreements, support county efforts to attract and retain qualified employees, and ensure adequate community engagement. Legislation also should not impose unfunded mandates, preempt local tax sources, or restrict local government authority.

# 2024 Clackamas County Federal Legislative Policy Agenda

## COUNTY INITIATIVE

- Federal funding to support the **I-205 Improvements Project**
  - 2024 Objectives:
    - Advocating for federal funding to support construction of the I-205 Improvements Project, which would add a third lane of capacity in each direction on I-205 between Stafford Road and OR 213, including the Abernethy Bridge
    - Ensuring that the I-205 Improvements Project remains a Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) federal priority

## COUNTY PRIORITIES

- Funding and legislation to support the repair and ownership transfer of the **Willamette Falls Locks**
  - 2024 Objectives:
    - Advocate for federal funding for capital repairs (to match state investment)
    - Advance efforts for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to transfer the facility to the Willamette Falls Locks Authority
- Legislation for the responsible and sustainable **management of federal forest lands**, including O&C Lands, for **wildfire prevention and predictable revenue to counties from shared timber receipts**
  - 2024 Objectives:
    - Partner with NACo and other key stakeholders on efforts to advance federal forest management reform
    - Engage with members of the Oregon delegation on the need for federal forest management reform and a predictable source of revenue to be achieved through sustainable harvest
    - Work with the Association of O&C Counties and others to support long-term solutions to Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding and management of O&C lands
- Legislation to support **Mt. Hood** recreation, access, and protection
  - 2024 Objectives:
    - Support legislative efforts to enhance transit, travel safety, recreational access, and other tourism and economic development initiatives that allow Mt Hood to thrive as a destination
    - Engage with members of the Oregon delegation to build support for the county's FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant application to underground electricity lines and rebuild substations along the Mt. Hood corridor, in partnership with Portland General Electric (PGE)

- Policies and funding to support **housing and human services programs**, and other county operations that are reliant on federal resources
  - 2024 Objectives:
    - Advocate for the county’s needs with Congressional offices
    - Support the priorities of Clackamas County in related legislation
  
- Policies and funding to encourage **increased food production and production acreage in the county**, and support for the farming industry – especially family farms – to thrive and adapt to market and climate impacts.
  - 2024 Objectives:
    - Engage with members of the Oregon delegation on the county’s desire to increase food production and food production acreage, including but not limited to addressing barriers to farmer entry and succession planning, policies that protect and preserve specialty crops, and climate adaptation
    - Participate in the policy development of the anticipated Farm Bill, and provide relevant feedback to the Oregon delegation offices

# FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

## **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 qualifies for programs that assist efforts 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, expand travel options, enhance seismic resiliency, spur economic growth in employment areas including the Sunrise Gateway Corridor, increase housing inventory, 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 our natural resource-based economy, reduce wildfire risk, and improve the financial stability of counties by creating a predictable and long-term solution to county revenue needs.

## **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, assist vulnerable populations including residents who are facing homelessness, substance abuse and addictions, behavioral health challenges, and public health threats. Legislation also should help reduce the crime rate and recidivism, promote and sustain best practices for justice-involved individuals, protect survivors of domestic violence, improve emergency communications and disaster preparedness, and enhance the region's readiness for threats or acts of terrorism.

## **Build Public Trust through Good Government**

The county supports legislation that enhances the county's ability to deliver effective, reliable, and equitable services to county residents. Successful legislation will maintain the county's financial sustainability, allocate sufficient resources for county programs, preserve state and county shared revenue agreements, and support county efforts to attract and retain qualified employees. Legislation also should not impose unfunded mandates, preempt local tax sources, restrict local government authority, or use population as the sole criteria for federal funding allocations in cases where multiple jurisdictions serve a metropolitan area.