

# 2018 Clackamas County

## State Legislative Agenda



### County Initiatives

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#### **I-205 Congestion Relief and Safety Improvement Funding**

Advocate for state funding to support an additional lane of capacity in each direction of I-205 from Stafford Road to OR 99E. The Oregon portion of I-205 is federally designated as a High Priority Corridor and is of vital importance 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.

#### **Sunrise Phase II Funding**

Advocate for state funding to support extension of the Sunrise Corridor from 122nd Ave. to 172nd Ave. and/or other operational enhancements that contribute to the entire Sunrise Corridor. This project is vital to improving access to thousands of acres of employment lands within the urban growth boundary, many of which are ready for development.

#### **Clackamas County Courthouse Replacement Project**

Support efforts to assist in the replacement of the 80-year old, structurally-deficient Clackamas County Courthouse located in downtown Oregon City.



*Courthouse design concept*

## Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

Jim Bernard – Chair

Sonya Fischer

Ken Humberston

Paul Savas

Martha Schrader

## Economic Development

**Brownfields:** Support legislation that facilitates the redevelopment of vacated industrial sites through measures such as recapitalizing the state Brownfields Redevelopment Fund, creating property tax incentives, and creating state tax credits.

**Carbon Reduction:** Support efforts to advance carbon reduction initiatives that improve livability for communities in Clackamas County.

**Cross Laminated Timber:** Support efforts to develop the Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) industry in Clackamas County, in coordination with partners in the Pacific Northwest Manufacturing Partnership (PNMP). Clackamas County is well positioned to lead the emergence of the mass timber and CLT industry by addressing the supply chain needed to boost Oregon's productivity. CLT has the potential to create 6,100 direct jobs and 17,300 indirect jobs in Oregon over the next 15 years, while supporting efforts to address climate change through the sequestration of carbon.



**Economic Development Funding:** Support continued state funding to counties for economic development programs.

**Employment Lands:** Support legislation to increase the supply of available employment land ready for development. Support state financing and incentives to assist local governments in constructing infrastructure and preparing shovel-ready sites.

**Enterprise Zones:** Support the creation of additional Enterprise Zones in Oregon.

**Film & Media Production:** Support legislation that provides state incentives to help recruit film and media projects to Oregon and keep current projects in the state.

**Willamette Falls Locks:** Support the repairing and reopening of the Willamette Falls Locks to restore river navigation to the Willamette River.

**Willamette Falls Legacy Project:** Support efforts to aid in the redevelopment of the 23-acre former Blue Heron paper mill site adjacent to Willamette Falls in Oregon City. Clackamas County has been working in partnership with Oregon City, Metro, and the State of Oregon to explore the feasibility of redeveloping the site, which presents

significant structural and environmental challenges. The site's location provides a rare opportunity for a unique economic redevelopment project that would complement and strengthen Oregon City's downtown and create a regionally-significant visitor amenity and historic tourist attraction to benefit the local economy.



## Finance

**Financial Sustainability:** Ensure adequate and stable funding of county programs and services. Counties partner with the state to provide vital public services and are on the front line of ensuring that services continue and reach those who need them.

**Mortgage Electronic Registration System (MERS):** Oppose legislation to amend the Oregon Trust Deed Act and refine the definition of "beneficiary" for the purposes of trust deeds and cure deficiencies regarding the Mortgage Electronic Registration System (MERS).

**Preemption and Local Control:** Oppose preemption of local tax sources and other efforts to restrict local government authority, including but not limited to the administration of building codes within Clackamas County. Local control allows counties to create and fund programs that foster innovation and address the unique needs of their communities.

**Public Contracting:** Support considerations to the Public Contracting Code (ORS 279) that promote responsible use of public resources for local agencies.

**Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) Reform:** Support legislation to curb the ever increasing costs of PERS while maintaining an adequate and sustainable retirement program for employees. The PERS deficit has grown to \$25.3 billion and continues to increase at a rapid pace.

**State/County Shared Revenue Agreements:** Support preservation of counties' share of cigarette, marijuana, liquor, video lottery, and recreational vehicle fee revenue. Monies received by counties fund economic development programs, county park and recreation areas, and essential front line services, including sheriff's patrol, jails, and health services.

# Health, Housing & Human Services

## Affordable Housing and Support Services:

1) Support efforts to create and preserve affordable housing and support services for moderate, low, and very low income residents and those experiencing homelessness, including a moderate increase in the document recording fee and removal of a constitutional barrier that prevents local jurisdictions from pairing general obligation (GO) bonds with other common affordable housing financing tools. 2) Support legislation that increases rental protection for tenants. 3) Support level funding for senior programs, including Oregon Project Independence, Health Promotion activities, abuse prevention activities through the Gatekeeper program, and the Options Counseling program. 4) Support increased funding for veterans' housing needs to meet the rise in the number of homeless veterans in Clackamas County.



**Air Quality:** Support legislation to improve air quality in the Portland metro area, including policies and funding to address air toxics, fine particulate matter from diesel engines, and wood smoke.

**Domestic Violence:** Support legislation that promotes increased resources for victims of domestic violence and improved accountability for offenders.

**Early Learning Funding:** Support continued funding to Early Learning Hub Coordination to support early education and kindergarten readiness countywide.

**Funding for Health and Human Services:** Support continuation of existing funding levels for health and human services programs - behavioral health, social services, public health, children, youth & families, community solutions (workforce & weatherization services), developmental disabilities - to enable Clackamas County programs to continue at current service levels and, in some cases, provide additional prevention, support, and treatment services to vulnerable individuals and families.

**Mediation/Conciliation Funding:** Support continued funding of mediation/conciliation programs at existing levels or higher. County mediation assists people and organizations in finding mutually agreeable solutions through direct facilitation and skill-building resources.

**Medicaid Funding and Enrollment:** Support current or increased access to Medicaid for Oregon residents.

**Opioids:** Support the Governors Opioid Task Force Policy recommendations, including expanding access to treatment and recovery services, improving coverage options for non-pharmacological chronic pain care, and safe prescribing and drug disposal opportunities.

**Oregon Adult Abuse Prevention and Investigation (OAPPI) Statute Clarification:** Support updates to ORS 430.735 to clarify who has the authority to investigate abuse allegations of mental health clients enrolled in Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs). Currently, 85% of abuse allegations in Clackamas County are screened out due to CCO enrollments.

**Prevention Funding - Youth Development Funds:** Support current or increased levels of Youth Development funds to support and allow for additional PreventNet School-based sites in Clackamas County.

**Public Health Modernization Funding:** Support continued investments to strengthen the public health system in Oregon by building sustainable infrastructure that supports the health of our communities.

**Recreational Marijuana:** 1) Support efforts to regulate accessibility, marketing, and packaging of cannabis products targeting young consumers. 2) Support efforts to merge recreational and medical marijuana regulation and enforcement to allow for clear and consistent guidelines for businesses and regulators. 3) Oppose legislation that would create an exemption in the Indoor Clean Air Act for cannabis cafes.

**Veterans & Surviving Spouse Tax Relief:** Support legislation that grants a higher property tax exemption for disabled veterans and surviving spouses of active duty military personnel killed in the line of duty.

**Youth Tobacco Prevention:** Support legislation aimed at reducing youth tobacco use, including the preservation of existing Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP) funding.



## Public Safety

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**9-1-1 Centers:** Support legislation to improve operations, NextGen 9-1-1 development, and funding for 9-1-1 centers.

**Earthquake Early Warning System for the West Coast:**

Support additional state funding to establish an earthquake early warning system in the Pacific Northwest that could help reduce risks associated with earthquakes, including a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. The ShakeAlert system is estimated to cost \$38.3 million plus an additional \$16.1 million to operate and maintain the system annually, and would cover the West Coast States of California, Oregon, and Washington. To date, the system has received nearly \$20 million from the federal government and a private foundation.



**Justice Reinvestment:** Defend state funding for the Justice Reinvestment grant program, which received \$47 million in the 2017 session to fund community-based programs that help people succeed outside of prison, such as community corrections, re-entry programs, addiction treatment, and mental health services.

**Juvenile Crime Prevention - Basic & Diversion Funding:**

Support Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) Basic & Diversion funding from the Oregon Youth Authority at the highest level possible, which provides approximately \$910,000 annually to the County Juvenile Department.

**Juvenile Crime Prevention - Prevention Funding:** Support Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) funding from the Youth Development Council at the highest funding level possible, which provides approximately \$206,000 annually to the County Juvenile Department.

**Juvenile Crime Prevention Target Population:** Oppose any statutory changes to the current targeted population of children and youth who are eligible for services that are funded by Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) Prevention dollars currently administered by the Youth Development Council.

**Oregon Juvenile Delinquency Code:** Oppose statutory changes to the Oregon Juvenile Delinquency Code which do not align with identified best practices, are not developmentally appropriate for adolescents, or run counter to positive youth development.

**Reentry After Incarceration:** Oppose legislation that would remove the County's authority to decide who may be released from prison to reside in Clackamas County.

## Human Resources

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**Collective Bargaining:** Oppose legislation affecting interim bargaining negotiations that reduces employer flexibility between contract periods and threatens scarce public resources.

## Law Library

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**Law Library Funding:** Support continued funding of county law libraries at existing levels or higher. County law libraries preserve county residents' access to justice by providing direct professional legal research assistance and legal materials, resources, and services.

## Tourism

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**Transient Lodging Tax (TLT):** Support legislation clarifying that intermediaries such as AirBnB, Expedia, and Travelocity are responsible for collecting and remitting both the state TLT as well as any applicable local TLTs.

## Land Use

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**Land Use:** 1) Support legislation that amends state law to clarify that counties are not required to allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in rural areas. 2) Support efforts to finalize Clackamas County's urban and rural reserves process.



## Clackamas County Public and Government Affairs

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