

RESOLUTION NO. 991

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE CITY'S 2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, an adopted list of priorities will assist in developing effective communication between the City Council and other elected officials, provide policy guidance to the City Manager, and inform residents of issues of importance to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now desires to formally adopt a list of 2023 City legislative priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Approval of 2023 Legislative Priorities. The City of University Place's 2023 legislative priorities are as follows:

- Maintain local control over local planning. The City opposes any legislation that lessens the tools and flexibility that local governments have to accommodate population growth and address housing affordability. This includes, without limitation, any broad-brush legislation that would, on a state-wide or regional basis, change zoning within a community. The City supports Association of Washington Cities' ("AWC") request for tools and investments to support housing for the lowest income levels.
- Address impacts of the Blake decision. The City supports AWC's request for clarification regarding the legality of possessing a controlled substance. The City also supports a request for investments in statewide services and a statewide support system to address addiction and behavioral health needs.
- Enhance public safety. The City supports AWC's efforts to obtain clarification regarding the ability of police to conduct vehicular pursuits using a reasonable suspicion standard. The City also supports AWC's proposal to create and fund regional campuses to train Washington police. Lastly, the City requests additional funding and/or funding options for the provision of local police services.
- Make permanent REET flexibility. The City requests that the legislature make permanent the financial flexibility provided in 2021 by E2SHB 1069, which included a provision that provided cities with flexibility through 2023 to use a portion of a city's REET revenue for maintenance and operations of parks and capital facilities.
- Capital and Long-Term Sustainable Investments. The City seeks funding in the following areas and for the following projects:
 - Day Island Bridge design – \$1 million. The City is seeking \$1 million for design of a replacement for the Day Island Bridge. Day Island is accessed solely by way of a 600 ft. long bridge that spans a critical rail line. The bridge has been rated as structurally deficient, functionally obsolete and in need of replacement. In a seismic event, the bridge may fail, block rail traffic and isolate over 300 residents. The total project cost is estimated to be \$15 million. The new bridge will provide a safe and reliable access for vehicles and pedestrians and will be built to current earthquake and structural standards, helping to ensure the vital surrounding infrastructure and waterways are protected in emergency events.
 - Sewer Infrastructure – \$1 million. Last session, the City applied for \$1 million to fund the 57th Avenue Sewer Extension Project. The City was awarded \$100,000 for the project's design work. This year, the City is requesting the remaining \$900,000 needed for construction.

- Chambers Creek Road Roundabout. \$1 million. The City is seeking \$1 million for design and construction of the Chambers Creek Road Roundabout Project. This project will create a safer intersection for vehicles and ADA compliant pedestrian crossings at the current “T” intersection that serves the major connection between University Place and Steilacoom/JBLM. This heavily trafficked corridor is of regional commercial significance – a primary route to Chambers Bay Golf Course. An improvement of the intersection will support the planned development of a new clubhouse and regional park improvements at the Chambers Creek Properties.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 7, 2022.

Steve Worthington, Mayor

ATTEST:

Emelita J. Genetia, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Matthew S. Kaser, City Attorney