



# 2024 State Legislative Agenda

## Quick Facts

- Population: 9,902 (2023)
- Median Household Income: \$56,442 (2017-2021 ACS)
- Poverty Rate: 10.3% (2017-2021 ACS)
- Median Housing Value: \$434,400 (Q2 2023 RMLS)
- Parks: 5 totaling 17.0 Acres
- Roads: 35 Miles of City Maintained Roads
- Home of Walla Walla University

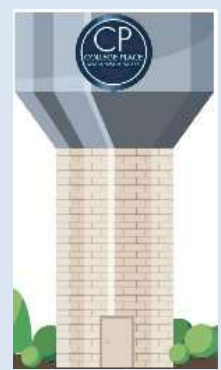


The City of College Place is very grateful to our local legislators who supported a number of significant accomplishments in the 2023 legislative session. As we look toward the 2024 session, we are asking your support on several requests that will help us better plan and meet the needs of our dynamic and ever changing city and the amazing people who live here.

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## Priorities

### Western CP Water System Improvement



1 mil gallon water tank and additional well needed for supply and resiliency of system. Estimated cost is:

- \$5.0 million for Well #7 (**\$1 Million ask**)
- \$15.0 million for Reservoir #4

### Lions Park Community Center



Replace outdated community center adjacent to newly renovated park. To include commercial kitchen, business incubator, common room, storage, library branch and childcare. Total cost \$10.1 million

### Replacement Police Department



Replace outdated Police Department. Estimated cost is \$11.5 million.

### SE 12<sup>th</sup> Street (College to Sky Ave)



Reconstruction of 1.0 miles of roadway including underground utilities at: \$5.4 million.

## Key Issues

### Economic Development/Infrastructure

- **SUPPORT** - Continued state investment in infrastructure (traditional as well as broadband) including for operations and maintenance.
- **SUPPORT** – Protecting and strengthening pass through State grant agencies such as Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF), Recreation Conservation Office (RCO), Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB), Department of Health (DOH) and others including ensuring that grantmaking guidelines are not more restrictive than Federal guidelines.
- **SUPPORT** – Support augmenting RCW 43.360 and 82.73 to create an easier pathway for the City to become a full participant in the State Main Street Program and take advantage of the B&O Tax Credit.
- **SUPPORT** - Expanding funding options for state and local transportation needs including for preservation and maintenance. Support that State funding be provided for repairing and replacing locally owned culverts.
- **SUPPORT** - Proactive approach to create new tools, incentives, and revenues that cities can use to help increase housing supply and address affordability.
- **SUPPORT** – Allowing cities to revenue share sales tax subject to Interlocal Agreement.
- **SUPPORT** – Broaden RCW 84.14 – Multifamily Property Tax Exemption so all cities can participate in the program in perpetuity. Right now the program for everyone sunsets in 2026.
- **SUPPORT** - Policies that expand access to affordable, quality childcare in Washington.
- **OPPOSE** – State building code changes that preclude natural gas from construction or other rules that make housing unaffordable.

### General Government

- **SUPPORT** – Reform of the Growth Management Act pertaining to UGA's.
- **SUPPORT** - Ways to reduce the impact of abusive public records requests and litigation.
- **SUPPORT** – Solutions to bring back true recycling in a cost effective manner.
- **SUPPORT** - Efforts to review and revise both state and local tax structures such that they rely less on regressive revenue options. Allow cities revenue flexibility to address community's needs.
- **SUPPORT** - Protect against liability expansion and new policies that would drive additional claims and litigation increasing costs especially in the area public safety, and human resources.
- **SUPPORT** – Defend Local Control.
- **SUPPORT** - Climate Commitment Act funding for city efforts/programs.
- **OPPOSE** – Unfunded mandates.

### Public Safety/Human Services

- **SUPPORT** - Additional funding tools and resources to support police officer recruitment and retention.
- **SUPPORT** - Expand access to mandated training especially the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) including State not reducing anymore its fiscal sponsorship.
- **SUPPORT** - creating greater access to entire continuum of behavioral health services.
- **SUPPORT** - Technical fixes to address implementation issues related to SB 5536 (2023) that have been identified as well language constituting requirements for mental health responders.
- **SUPPORT** - additional tools to address property crime.
- **SUPPORT** - Direct funding to help offset cities costs for implementing the new Blake/drug possession law including funding for staffing, law enforcement assisted diversion, and diversion programs.

*The City supports the Association of Washington Cities Legislative Agenda.*