

City of College Place, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 24-077

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, the City of College Place is a non-charter code city under Title 35A RCW; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of College Place (City) wishes to state its 2025 legislative priorities for the State and Federal government.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLLEGE PLACE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City of College Place hereby adopts the legislative priorities for the 2025 state legislative session outlined in Exhibit 2 of this agenda bill.
2. The City of College Place supports the legislative priorities identified by the Association of Washington Cities.
3. The City of College Place submits that strong cities result in a strong state and country.

CLERICAL CORRECTIONS. The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary clerical corrections to this resolution including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, resolution numbering, section/subsection numbers and any references thereto.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This resolution shall take effect and be in full force upon its passage as provided by law.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of College Place, Washington held on the 12th day of November, 2024.

Signed by:

Norma L. Hernandez

Norma L. Hernández, Mayor

Attest:

Signed by:

Maryelizabeth Garcia

Maryelizabeth Garcia, City Clerk



2025 State Legislative Agenda

Quick Facts

- Population: 9,945 (2024 State OFM)
- Median Household Income: \$60,417 (2018-2022 ACS)
- Poverty Rate: 11.7% (2018-2022 ACS)
- Median Housing Value: \$450,000 (Q2 2024 RMLS)
- Parks: 5 totaling 17.0 Acres
- Roads: 35 Miles of City Maintained Roads
- Home of Walla Walla University

Contact: Mr. Mike Rizzitiello – City Administrator Ph: 509-394-8506 Em: mrizzitiello@cpwa.us
 Mr. Brian Enslow – Lobbyist Ph: 360-489-8121 Em: brian@arbutusllc.com



The City of College Place is grateful to our local legislators who supported our significant accomplishments in 2024. As we look to 2025, we are asking your support on several requests to help us better plan and meet the needs of our dynamic city and our amazing people.

Priorities

College Place Reservoir #4 Construction



Construction of a one-million-gallon water tank needed for supply and resiliency of system. Total cost is \$20.0 million. \$19 million is fundraised. **Request is \$1 million dollars.**

Lions Park Community Center



Replace Community Center at Lions Park with 12,700 square foot multipurpose facility on two-floors with childcare, commercial kitchen, library, and community room components. Total cost is \$10.1 million. **Request is \$1 million dollars.**

SR 125 & College Avenue Reconstruction



Reconfigure intersection to a roundabout. Total estimated cost is \$4 million. **Request is \$1.5 million dollars.**

SE 12th 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** – 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** - Sustainable transportation revenue funding local preservation, maintenance, and operations.
- **SUPPORT** - Develop new fiscal tools to build infrastructure to support housing development.
- **SUPPORT** – New funding options for needs along the housing continuum.
- **SUPPORT** – Support augmenting RCW 43.360 and 82.73 to create a more accessible 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** – Broaden RCW 84.14 – Multifamily Property Tax Exemption so all cities can participate in the program perpetually. Right now, the program for everyone sunsets in 2026.
- **SUPPORT** – Efforts to increase affordable, quality childcare access.

General Government

- **SUPPORT** – Protect against liability expansion and new policies driving additional claims.
- **SUPPORT** – Proposals to establish a product stewardship framework for packaging to reduce the impact on local solid waste programs.
- **SUPPORT** – Continued updates to the Public Records Act (PRA) to reduce the impacts of vexation litigation and vexatious requestors.
- **SUPPORT** – Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) updates to help address the trend of increasing disruptive meetings.
- **SUPPORT** – Seek opportunities to balance costs and reduce unintended impacts on employers from expansion of leave laws and other proposed employee benefit enhancements.
- **OPPOSE** – Unfunded mandates.

Public Safety/Human Services

- **SUPPORT** – Enhanced state funding for indigent defense and workforce development for prosecutors and public defenders.
- **SUPPORT** – Expanding funding for grants to support ongoing funding for local behavioral health crisis co-responder programs. Ensure grant policies mesh with local operating environment.
- **SUPPORT** – Additional prosecutorial and law enforcement resources to address retail theft.
- **SUPPORT** – Continued 100% state funding of the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA)
- **SUPPORT** – Enhanced state investment in emergency and transitional housing.
- **SUPPORT** – Continued and expanded operational grant funding and ongoing operational funding for therapeutic courts and diversion programs.
- **SUPPORT** – Provide 100% reimbursement to cities that provide firefighting support for state wildland fire deployments.
- **SUPPORT** – Expansion of funding to cities for prevention planning, response, and recovery for wildfire and other natural disasters.
- **SUPPORT** – Increase resources for state crime lab to ensure timely processing of evidence.

The City supports the Association of Washington Cities Legislative Agenda.