

Legislative Agenda Priorities 2025

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Fife continues its recognition of the budget challenges the state transportation budget will face now and in the coming years. Fife fully commits to protecting the investments made to date on the Puget Sound Gateway and Move Ahead Washington transportation packages. They each had balanced approaches to addressing our community's transportation and economic development needs – Fife continues its belief that we need to finish what we started before embarking on new transportation system initiatives. Given ongoing safety challenges in the community, the economic development role that Fife plays as a "front doorstep" to Pierce County and the Port of Tacoma, the need to ensure connectivity, and our ongoing challenges with homeless encampments within our transportation rights-of-way, Fife requests the following:

GRADE SEPARATIONS GRANT MATCH

The city, in partnership with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, requests a \$1.5 million state appropriation to provide a 20% match toward a federal grant to design a grade separation at 54th Avenue East and the Union Pacific Railroad crossing.



I-5/54TH AVENUE EAST INTERCHANGE

The 54th Avenue East Interchange Improvement Project, which lies entirely within the Puyallup Indian Reservation, includes multiple phases. The overall project will maintain the eastern half of the interchange and rebuild the western half of the interchange to improve traffic operations and safety. The city **requests \$22.3 million** for right-of-way acquisition for Phases 1 and 2 and design for Phase 2. We received a federal grant for design of Phase 1 previously and that effort is currently underway. Phase 1 improvements will include new southbound on- and -off ramps at approximately 51st Ave. E, closure of the existing on-ramp from southbound 54th Ave. E to southbound I-5, and a southbound I-5 collector/distributor lane running from east of 54th Ave. E to west of 51st Ave. E. Phase 2 will improve Pacific Hwy E between 51st Ave. E and 54th Ave. E with new signals and channelization to accommodate traffic that will be moved to the new I-5 on/off-ramp at 51st Ave. E.



RUSS BLOUNT MEMORIAL BRIDGE

The city **requests the Legislature adopt a joint memorial** that calls on the Washington State Transportation Commission to rename the future 34th Avenue East overpass of I-5 as the Russ Blount Memorial Bridge in honor of longtime Fife Public Works Director and Deputy City Manager Russ Blount, who championed the project.

spuyaləpabš TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Request that toll revenues can be utilized for spuyalapabs Trail maintenance and restoration within the SR 167 limited access area.

TIMING OF INVESTMENTS FOR "ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION" PROJECTS LISTED IN THE MOVE AHEAD WASHINGTON PACKAGE

Fife will actively work to ensure early funding and phasing for key projects like the spuyalapabš Trail along the SR 167 alignment and a \$1.4 million Interurban Trail project.





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PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT



RETENTION, RECRUITING AND HIRING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Fife appreciates actions by the 2022 Legislature to fund LEOFF 2 enhancements for existing law enforcement officers and the 2023-24 sessions' emphasis on regional academies and officer wellness. In 2025, the city **seeks legislative assistance to recruit and hire new officers**. Direct funding for incentive payments to peace officers, Homes for Heroes, and monies to help fund applicant background investigations should all be on the table.

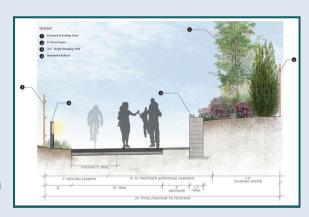
ENCAMPMENT CHALLENGES WITHIN RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Fife is greatly appreciative of a \$2 million allocation in prior transportation budgets (2022 and 2023-25) to assist our small community with addressing right-of-way encampments and providing housing and services to those experiencing homelessness. New funds will enable the city to keep these efforts ongoing in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and others. Fife **requests the 2025 Legislature to allocate an additional \$1 million** toward these efforts in the 2025-27 biennial budget.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

PHASE 2 ACQUISITION FOR SHEFFIELD TRAIL WIDENING AND RENOVATION PROJECT

\$1,000,000 request – The City of Fife has secured full funding for Phase 1 of the Sheffield Trail widening and renovation project. We are now seeking additional funding to acquire the necessary right-of-way for Phase 2. This acquisition is crucial to proceed with the design and construction stages. The current condition of the trail, with extensive root damage and inadequate width, makes it difficult to accommodate machinery for repairs. Widening the trail will enhance user safety and experience, improve connectivity to the community library, and create a seamless link between two major arterials. Furthermore, the renovated trail will serve as a vital evacuation route for the community in the event of a lahar. This project is a significant step toward improving local infrastructure, fostering community connectivity, and ensuring public safety.



FIFE COMMUNITY CENTER HVAC AND ENTRYWAY RENOVATION



\$300,000 request – The Fife Community Center, built in 1978, is in urgent need of updates to its original HVAC system and repairs to the deteriorating brick entryways. These improvements are critical to maintaining the facility as a safe and functional space for the community. The Community Center plays a vital role during extreme weather conditions, operating as a warming and cooling shelter for residents. It also serves as a central gathering place for senior activities and community events. Renovating the HVAC system will ensure a more energy-efficient and reliable environment, while repairing the crumbling entryways will enhance safety and accessibility for all visitors. Investing in these updates will extend the lifespan of this essential community hub and improve its ability to serve Fife residents in the years to come.