

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-122

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE CITY OF WALLA WALLA

WHEREAS, the City of Walla Walla passed Municipal Ordinance A-2405 on May 13, 1970 which classified the City of Walla Walla as a nonchartered code city under Title 35A of the Revised Code Washington (RCW); and

WHEREAS, section 35A.11.020 of the Revised Code of Washington provides in pertinent part that “[t]he legislative body of each code city shall have all powers possible for a city or town to have under the Constitution of this state, and not specifically denied to code cities by law;” and

WHEREAS, it is part of the normal and regular conduct of the City of Walla Walla to identify its legislative priorities to provide input to its congressional representatives; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla City Council has considered this matter during a regularly and duly called public meeting of said Council, has given this matter careful review and consideration, finds that good government and the best interests of the City of Walla Walla will be served by identifying its legislative priorities, and members of the legislative body and members of the public have been afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an opposing views,

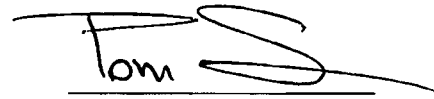
NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Walla Walla do resolve as follows:

Section 1: The City of Walla Walla hereby adopts the following federal legislative priorities for 2021:

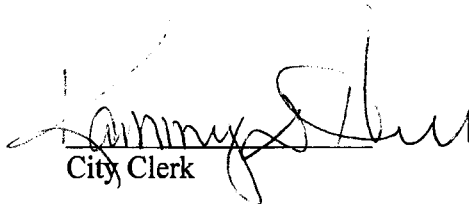
- The City supports funding US Highway 12 Phase 8, which completes the Walla Walla/Tri-Cities segment and improves safety and efficiency on this critical travel corridor.
- The City supports transportation funding to construct a diamond interchange at the intersection of US Hwy 12 and Clinton Street/Lower Waitsburg Rd. as recommended in the US 12 Corridor Study (City, County, Port and WSDOT funded), to improve traffic safety, emergency response times and efficiency on a critical travel corridor within Walla Walla city limits.
- The City encourages passage of a fourth COVID-19 stimulus package that includes revenue for local governments, businesses, unemployment support, and rental assistance, eliminates any population thresholds for local funding assistance, permits federal assistance to be used to replace lost revenue as well as reimburse local governments for costs associated with Coronavirus Pandemic response, and extends deadlines to obligate the funds through calendar year 2021.

- The City encourages Congress to include congressionally directed funds for transportation projects and utility improvements when it considers and passes the FY22 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriation bill, and reauthorizes the Nation's surface transportation act currently known as the Fast Act.
- The City supports pursuing additional resources and policies to increase affordable housing and reduce homelessness at the state, county, and municipal level including sustainable funding to support solutions such as the Walla Walla Sleep Center.
- The City supports funding broadband infrastructure and providing incentives in rural cities/towns of all sizes to foster economic development and provide greater technological equity with the urban centers.
- The City supports funding for the US Forest Service to improve wildland fire fighting capacity and fire prevention through fuel reduction in the Walla Walla watershed. Further, the City supports including wildland fires as a natural disaster in order to qualify affected communities for Federal and State disaster relief assistance.
- The City supports additional funding for public safety to implement a body camera and vehicle dash camera program for police officers, including necessary support personnel.
- The City supports AWC's 2021 Federal Legislative Priorities.

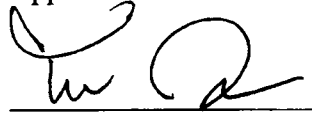
PASSED by the City Council of the City of Walla Walla, Washington, November 18, 2020.


 Mayor

Attest:


 City Clerk

Approved as to form:


 City Attorney



2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

U.S. Highway 12 – Phase 8

Funding for U.S. Highway 12 four-laning Phase 8. Total federal funding needed for construction is \$185.7 million. State has already earmarked \$9.3 million for design and right-of-way acquisition.

Seek Phase 8 placement on the Federal Highway Administrations Projects of National and Regional Significance. Work with congressional delegation to have project listed as a Tier I or Tier II project.

U.S. Highway 12 – Clinton Interchange

Funding for the U.S. Highway Clinton Street Interchange. Total federal funding for construction is \$40 million. Project will construct an interchange to provide full access at Clinton Street to enhance safety, community connectivity, economic vitality and provide a safe and full access for freight mobility.

Full Support of the River Navigation System, including Full and Proper Maintenance of the Columbia and Snake River Dams

The Columbia and Snake River navigation system is critical infrastructure to the Pacific Northwest economy. Full protection of the navigation system is paramount to the continued economic vitality of the Pacific Northwest. Proper ongoing maintenance ensures the longevity of the system and will allow for continued use and benefit of the inland waterway.

E911 Improvements

Walla Walla County's multi-agency E911 Emergency Telecommunications Facility has been identified as a targeted damage site, as it lies in the collapse path of a multi-story brick structure that could render the site a total catastrophic loss to emergency services, dispatch personnel, law enforcement capabilities, and public access to requests for fire, emergency medical services, and rescue. A new location would need to be seismically retrofit and renovated for the purposes of an Emergency Operations and Communication Center, including all new radio, cell, broadband and satellite telecommunications. This would increase the regions emergency capabilities resiliency.

Walla Walla County Courthouse

The County's Historic Courthouse Complex is both the operational and visible seat of County government. The Courthouse, built in the early 1900's, has been maintained and upgraded over the last 100 years to afford accessibility of services to the public. With the ongoing implementation of the American Disabilities Act, and in an effort to keep its historic architecture preserved for future generations, the County has recently undertaken a master planning project to identify and target the modernization and renovation needs of the Courthouse to insure the safety, accessibility, and resiliency of the Courthouse Complex. The County has requested a threat analysis from DHS/CISA on the physical resiliency of the complex.

Wallula Gap Industrial Park Development

The Wallula Gap Industrial Park is a 1,900+ acre heavy and light industrial zoned industrial park that is in need of infrastructure installation in order to provide services to the manufacturing leads that have shown interest in this property. The property is properly zoned, but lacks the necessary infrastructure to compete with other national sites. The infrastructure needs include: Expansion of a potable water system to include storage reservoirs, additional wells for reliability and redundancy, fire flow capacity for large manufacturing facilities, process water delivery system, wastewater disposal system (large storage reservoirs for land application) and the construction of a roadway network system to serve the industrial park.

Mill Creek Channel (Not a federal request, just a progress update)

Federal Funding for the “General Investigation Study” by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been secured. The non-federal sponsor funding requirement has been secured to complete the G.I. Study. Continue to seek federal funds for completion of the locally preferred plan, once developed as a result of the completion of the G.I. Study.

Commercial Air Service (Airlines Support)

Keep congressional delegation updated on Alaska Airlines marketing and retention efforts. Port/Airport may want to start exploring another Small Service Community Air Service Grant for a second outbound destination.

Airport Improvement Program – Local Match

Small rural airports like Walla Walla Regional Airport are having a hard time coming up with its approximate 10% local match requirement for FAA projects. For instance, the Walla Walla Regional Airport completed a taxiway repair project in fiscal year 2017/2018. The project cost \$14.0 million. With the current 90/10 funding formula the airport will need to provide \$1,400,000 in local cost share. This would deplete the Airport’s entire reserves. Would like to have the funding formula for small airports reduced to 95% Federal and 5% local.

Access Federal Programs

Work with congressional delegation to advance Port, County and Cities infrastructure priorities. Federal agency targets:

- Department of Commerce, EDA and CDBG general purpose grants
- Department of Interior/U.S. Forest Service
- Federal Department of Transportation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Department of Justice
- Homeland Security
- Bureau of Reclamation

Potential Projects

- Fiber Infrastructure Installation (Broadband Access)
- Warehouse District Development
- Additional Business Incubator Buildings Construction
- Removal/Remodel of various legacy military buildings at Airport