2022 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

FUND KEY TRANSPORTATION BUDGET PROJECTS

IMMEDIATE NEED: Fund shovel-ready $7 million for Stewart Road Bridge construction. We have been assembling the rest of the funding for more than 20 years. It’s time to finish this key east-west regional transportation corridor; otherwise, we will forfeit $9 million in grant funding in 2024 for this $30 million project. Serving Auburn’s Lakeland Hills, Lake Tapps, Bonney Lake, Fife, Milton and Federal Way, this one project provides freight mobility, supports economic development, completes the regional trail system and supports critical salmon habitat.

IMMEDIATE NEED: Transfer existing $500,000 funding for SR 410 Interchanges. Six years ago, we asked for help with all three obsolete 410 State interchanges in Sumner. Since then, with your support we completed the Traffic Avenue interchange improvements. We were able to finish without spending $500,000 allocated by the State, a great savings for taxpayers. But now, to further reduce congestion, we need the State to shift those critical funds to the next priority interchange on the corridor: 166th/SR410, currently in design.

NEED: Include SR410/166th Interchange and SR 167 Southbound third lane in any new transportation package. The SR410/166th interchange is in design to fix a dangerous, existing bottleneck. On SR 167, WSDOT is currently adding a third lane northbound but does not have funding identified for a southbound lane through Sumner, resulting in a congested mess emitting carbon emissions every weekday commute and weekends. Any new transportation package must include these regional priorities as well as WSDOT’s long-term work on the SR 162 highway.

SUPPORT ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE & SALMON RECOVERY

IMMEDIATE NEED: Restore salmon habitat and protect businesses against flooding by funding the Stewart Road Bridge construction. More than just a transportation project, Stewart Road Bridge is also part of the White River Restoration projects. This comprehensive restoration effort is a partnership with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians and Muckleshoot Indian Tribe to increase critical fish runs and provide flood protection to Sumner’s Manufacturing Industrial Center. We appreciate previous funding of the corresponding Habitat restoration, yet these companion projects must all happen to truly let the river flow freely and realize the full benefit of improved fish runs.

ONGOING: Support local planning for best regional impact. Past bills have sought to transfer local planning from cities to the State for a one-size-fits-all approach. However, Sumner’s local planning has prompted over 1,000 new units in the permit pipeline, with our population growing by 25% around multi-modal transit options. Small cities like Sumner are already shifting residents away from reliance on single-occupancy vehicles while retaining historic neighborhoods that attract residents in the first place. State efforts should support rather than supplant this success. To learn more, please contact Ryan Windish, Community Development Director, at 253-299-5524 or ryanw@sumnerwa.gov.

CONTINUE POLICE REFORMS THAT IMPROVE SAFETY

IMMEDIATE NEED: Continue to work with WASPC for effective reform. An accredited law enforcement agency for 16 years now, Sumner’s vision remains to set the standard of excellence for policing in a small city. We continue to improve training and policies and added body-worn cameras in 2021. There is more work to be done. Please continue to work with WASPC and AWC to make sure legislative intent and the impact on the streets are aligned. We look forward to working together to increase safety for both officers and the public. If you have any questions on how proposals impact day-to-day policing, please contact Chief Brad Moericke at 253-299-5641 or bradm@sumnerwa.gov.
YOUR WORK MAKING AN IMPACT IN SUMNER:

**RAINIER VIEW PARK COVERED COURT HEADING TO CONSTRUCTION**
Just after your last session, record high heat reinforced the need for covered, accessible places for kids, seniors and all ages to gather and exercise through rain, sun, and dark winter evenings. Thanks to your investment, this important project is in design with construction following.

**WHITE RIVER RESTORATION’S HABITAT PROJECT FUNDED**
This project, one of four companion projects for Sumner’s White River Restoration, received full funding with your investment. We’ve submitted permits to the Army Corps. Thank you for your investment; you join the City as well as a range of partners including Pierce County, the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Forterra, BNSF, Puget Sound Partnership, Cascade Water Alliance and others to return over 170 acres to habitat, simultaneously providing flood protection for regional/national supply chains and improving habitat for critical fish species that support the Orca populations of Puget Sound.

**TRAFFIC AVENUE COMPLETED UNDER BUDGET**
As we continue to talk about transportation challenges, we want to thank you again for your support in improving the Traffic Avenue interchange. As traffic counts return to more normal levels, the impact of this project to better serve buses, cars, response vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians is fully realized. Even more, it lays the pattern for how cities and WSDOT can work together to get more transportation projects done across the state. Confirmed in our annual audit, Sumner carefully managed State-awarded funds well, spending responsibility and effectively.

**ADDRESSING AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
In addition to approximately 1,000 multifamily units coming into Sumner, we’re also working on multiple aspects for affordable housing. We actively participate in South Sound Housing Affordability Partners (SSHAP) for a regional, coordinated approach and finalized our own Housing Action Plan in early 2021 and continue to take steps, implementing this plan.

WHERE IS SUMNER?

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