



## City of Pullman 2018 Legislative Priorities

Adopted 11/21/2017

### **Public Records Act (PRA)**

Pullman supports and practices transparency in government. The City asks that abusers of the Public Records Act be addressed. The City would support the legislature and the governor being subject to the PRA to the same extent as cities and counties.

### **Liquor & Marijuana Sales**

We support increasing the shared revenue from marijuana and liquor sales with city and county governments since it is the local jurisdictions that are responsible for administration and enforcement issues.

The City is also supportive of funding for research into health impacts of marijuana use and funding for technology that would allow law enforcement to conduct accurate and timely field sobriety tests.

### **Healthcare & Pullman Regional Hospital**

We support Pullman Regional Hospital as it copes with the impacts of the Affordable Care Act and any state funding that can contribute to that effort. We also support increased funding for physician residency training programs in eastern Washington and recognize the importance of planning for elder care.

### **Mental Health & Homelessness**

We support the development of an effective state system that provides evaluation and treatment of mental health issues for all who need it. In addition to being a social issue, this is also a public safety issue with law enforcement forced into violent confrontations with the mentally ill and local jail beds fill with those who suffer from mental illness.

The City supports enhancement of the provision of much needed human service programs to address issues that drive homelessness and public safety costs.

### **Transportation Safety Projects**

We support safer highways to Pullman on State Highways 195 and 26 with the implementation of passing lanes on 26 and 195. This is a project that will help to save the lives of students and residents from throughout the state and these projects should be a priority much sooner than 2025.

We would like to thank the 9<sup>th</sup> District representatives for accomplishing the safety improvements on Highway 195.

### **Wastewater Treatment**

Current rulemaking related to toxics and fish consumption will likely have an impact on Pullman's NPDES wastewater discharge permit by lowering the city's current discharge limit for PCBs/Dieldrin by an order of magnitude or more. There are currently no technologies available that can treat to such low levels, and should they be developed will likely be terribly expensive (HDR, Treatment Technologies Review and Assessment, 2013). We encourage the legislature to support BMPs such as reducing PCBs in currently available products (EPA deems product PCB free at 50 parts per million, while the current

Pullman discharge permit is 170 parts per quadrillion) and provide time for municipalities to respond through an extended compliance schedule (20 years)

### **Alternative Energy Requirements**

By June 1, 2018, all local government subdivisions of the state are required to satisfy 100% of their fuel usage from electricity and biofuel for new vehicles. Other options may be possible if an economic justification is provided. We encourage continuing to build flexibility into the definition of “extent practicable” with consideration for cost as well as geographic availability of some alternatives is encouraged.

Pullman has received federal funding assistance to help pay for hybrid-electric busses at an average cost of \$650,000 per bus. These busses do not currently meet the state’s definition of an alternative energy vehicle. The City supports adding hybrid vehicles to the allowable alternative energy fleet.

### **Immigration & Diversity**

The City of Pullman is greatly benefited by having a diverse and inclusive community. The City Council hopes that the Legislature agrees that diversity is one of the keystones and primary attributes that makes Washington State a great place to live, work, and play.

### **Fire Service**

The City of Pullman supports legislation that will allow for more immediate aerial support during wildland fires, similar to legislation that has been co-sponsored by Representative Mary Dye. The City also encourages the Legislature to consider funding mechanisms that help offset the cost of training at the Washington State Fire Training Academy.