

2025-2026 City of Lakewood State Legislative Agenda

Community Partnership Program at Western State Hospital

The City proudly operates the successful community partnership program (CPP) which provides a safer environment for patients, staff and the surrounding community at Western State Hospital. Funding for this program is not included in DSHS' maintenance budget and must be requested each year. We respectfully request the Legislature allocate \$640,000 to the Western State Hospital CPP. This amount represents a 3% inflationary increase over the '23-25 appropriation which has not been adjusted since 2017.

Edgewater Park Improvement Project (28th LD)

Equity for all residents is a major goal of the Lakewood City Council and providing public access to every major body of water in the City will help meet this goal. Edgewater Park is undeveloped and is the only public boat launch to Lake Steilacoom, the second largest lake in the city. A Master Plan has been developed with community input and the City has applied for several grants to bring the vision to fruition. The City requests \$350,000 to support improvements and ensure equitable access to this public space.

Community Notification Board (29th LD)

Knowledge is power, and the City wants to provide residents with easier ways to stay informed by installing electronic notification boards at key locations. Types of messages shared may include details about public meetings, city events, general information about city services and key information in an emergency to keep the community safe. The electronic boards allow messages to be updated regularly and shared in multiple languages. The City requests \$250,000 toward the purchase, fabrication and installation of an electronic community notification board at South Tacoma Way & 96th Street SW.

Clean Buildings Standards Compliance

The City has two buildings that must comply with the state's clean building standards, City Hall (Tier 1: over 50k SF) and the Police Station (Tier 2: 20-50K SF). The cost of necessary upgrades to City Hall is roughly \$5.9 million. The cost for the Police Station is not yet known. Lakewood applied for the Early Adopter Program for City Hall which incentivized building owners to comply with the standards earlier than required by providing grant funding. Unfortunately, the funding available through the statewide program is woefully inadequate to support the level of interest and need. The City has the following prioritized requests. First, the City requests ongoing state funding for upgrades to City Hall and the Police Station to comply with the Clean Buildings Standards. Second, the City requests refinements to the policy to allow consideration of the public cost versus benefit of the improvements. Finally, the City requests extending the timeline for compliance to expand access to capital resources.

