

Shelton City Council Work Session

"2020 Legislative Session Priorities Preparation"

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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS LLC

Today's Agenda:

- I. **Goal for Today: Begin an Informed Discussion about the City's 2020 Legislative Priorities**
- II. **Brief Budgeting "101" Overview**
- III. **"Short" vs. "Long" Sessions (60 vs. 105 Days)**
- IV. **General Political & Policy Outlook for 2020**
- v. **DISCUSSION - Potential 2020 Legislative Priorities**

Professional Background:

➤ **Contract Lobbyist since 2017:**

- Joined Brad Tower at Phillips Burgess Government Relations in June of 2017
- Represent 14 Different Clients in Olympia; Most are Business-Related

➤ **Moved to Washington State in 2007:**

- State Director of National Federation of Independent Business (2007-2009)
- Policy Director, House Republican Caucus (2009-2014)
- Executive Officer, Olympia Master Builders (2014-2017)

➤ **Native Oregonian**

- Politically involved at all three levels of government from 1994-2007

2018 Legislative Accomplishments:

- **2018 Supplemental Transportation Budget**
 - \$1 Million for the Downtown Connector Project
- **2018 Supplemental Capital Budget**
 - \$288,000 for the Shelton Timberland Library Improvement Project

2019 Legislative Accomplishments:

- **2019-21 Transportation Budget**

- \$650,000 for the Wallace Kneeland/Shelton Springs Intersection Improvements

- **2019-21 Capital Budget**

- \$283,000 for the Shelton Civic Center Parking Lot Paving and Recreational Amenities

“Budgeting 101”

Three Significant Biennial* Budgets in the State of Washington:

- Operating Budget: \$55.9 Billion in the 2019-21 Biennium
- Transportation Budget: \$9.97 Billion for the 2019-21 Biennium
- Capital Budget: \$4.9 Billion for the 2019-21 Biennium

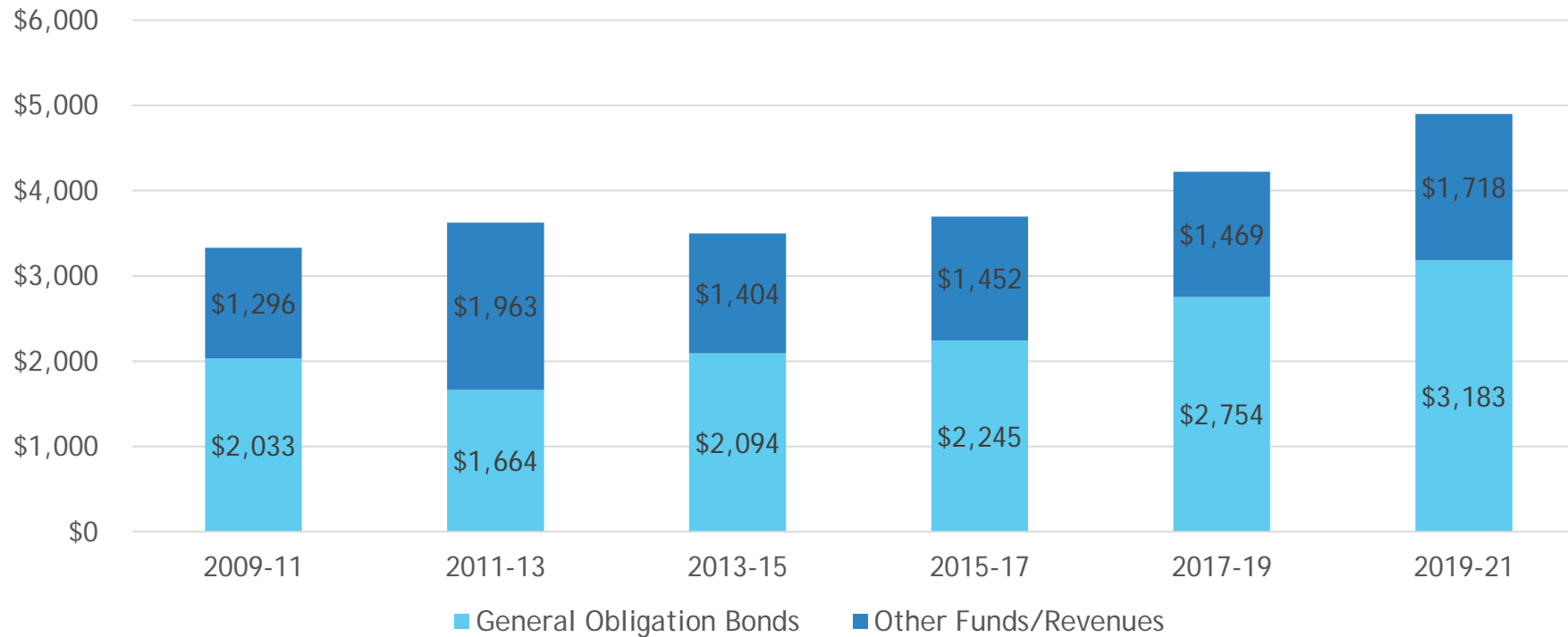
**The Current Biennium runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021; Biennial Budgets adopted in odd-numbered years, supplemental budgets adopted in even-numbered years*

The Legislature Appropriates Money in the Capital Budget for:

Public K-12 School Facilities	State Office Buildings	Local Government Infrastructure
Parks & Recreation, Wildlife Habitat Conservation, Forest Health, Water Quality & Quantity, and Open Space Projects		
Low-Income Housing, Community & Social Service Centers, Museums & Cultural Facilities		
Community College & University Buildings	Adult & Juvenile Prison & Rehabilitation Centers and Mental Health Facilities	

History of New Capital Budget Appropriations:

(Dollars in Millions)



Local and Community Projects (aka “Member Requests”)

➤ Recent Appropriation Amounts:

- 2013-15 Biennial Budget: \$95 million for 110 projects (average - \$863,000). Range: \$30,000 to \$5 million
- 2015-17 Biennial Budget: \$130 million for 147 projects (average - \$884,000). Range: \$10,000 to \$7 million
- 2017-19 Biennial Budget: \$131 million for 196 projects (average - \$688,350). Range: \$17,000 to \$3.4 million
- 2019-21 Biennial Budget: \$163 million for 298 projects (average - \$547,000). Range: \$14,000 to \$4.7 million

➤ Process in the State House of Representatives/State Senate:

- Sponsoring member signs and submits LCP application by deadlines set by chair and ranking minority member
- Committee chairs and ranking minority members make decisions on which projects to fund
- Always best to get the request included in both the House and Senate versions of the budget
- Negotiation of final budget includes working out differences between House and Senate on member requests
- It is a subjective process compared with the competitive funding programs in the Capital Budget

Transportation Budget Submittal Process

Member/Requesting Entity Transportation Budget requests are much more difficult to secure:

- Members are actively discouraged from making too many requests
- Gas tax revenues can't keep up with demands for new projects, maintenance and repairs (more fuel efficient cars; debt service on bonds takes up more than 1/3rd of the budget)
- WSDOT has adopted a six-year highway construction planning cycle to comply with federal requirements, and to better coordinate transportation system improvements with local governments statewide
- However, Since 1990, the Legislature has provided project-specific direction

Transportation Budget Submittal Process

- Members/requesting entities must submit a letter to the committee chair or ranking member (depending on which party the member belongs to) that includes the following information:
 - Project title
 - Description
 - Estimated economic impact of project (if available)
 - Additional funds either secured or being pursued for the project
 - List of member sponsorship
 - Contact of requestor (person, phone, email)
 - Clear labels for any attachments
- It's helpful if a member is "signed on" to the request - either sponsoring the request or sending a support letter separately. There's no official deadline, but to be considered in an orderly way, the letter should be submitted by January 1st before session begins.

“Short” vs. “Long” Sessions

- 60 Days (Even Numbered Years) vs. 105 Days (Odd Numbered Years)
- Meant to consider only supplemental budgets and “tweaks” to policy
- In practice, much like a “Long” Session with a compressed timeline
- Tend to Adjourn On-Time:
 - Of the 10 “Short” Sessions since 2000, Six have Adjourned on-time, vs. just three on-time adjournments for “Long” Sessions
 - Members are anxious to adjourn on time as it is an election year and they can’t raise campaign funds during session
- Convenes on January 13th, 2020:
 - Policy Committee Cutoff - Day 26
 - House of Origin Cutoff - Day 38
 - Opposite House Cutoff - Day 54
 - Sine Die - Day 60

General Political & Policy Outlook for 2020

Senate

49 Senators, 28 Democrats vs. 21 Republicans

Serve Four-Year Terms; Half the Seats are Contested Every Two Years

House of Representatives

98 Representatives, 57 Democrats vs. 41 Republicans

Serve Two-Year Terms; All 98 Seats are Contested Every Two Years

General Political & Policy Outlook for 2020 *(continued)*

- Two special elections this November, outcomes won't affect the partisan split of the Legislature
- New House Speaker, Rep. Laurie Jenkins (D-Tacoma), for the first time in 20 years
- Major Policy Initiatives:
 - Gun Control Legislation
 - Capital Gains Tax?
 - Outcome of I-976
- Transportation Packages?
 - Senator Hobbs proposal from 2019, Rep. Fey drafting his own proposal for 2020

DISCUSSION - Potential 2020 Legislative Priorities

- 2020 Supplemental Capital Budget
 - Total Bond Capacity for the 2020 Supplemental Capital Budget = \$70.034 million (\$1.429 million per Legislative District)
 - Anticipated Shelton YMCA Local Community Project Request = \$750,000
- Transportation Package?
 - AWC's Top 2020 Legislative Priority
 - Railroad Avenue Corridor Improvements (\$750,000 to \$1.5 million request in 2019, depending on County participation)
 - US Navy/WSDOT Consideration of Bremerton Commuter Rail
- Late-comer agreement mitigation opportunities
- Resources to address homelessness issues
- Municipal government modernization initiatives

QUESTIONS?

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