



**TO:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
**FROM:** Randall Lewis, Government Relations Officer  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** State Legislative and Federal Policy Agendas for 2015 – Requested City Council  
December 9, 2014  
**DATE:** November 17, 2014

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**SUMMARY:**

Resolution approving the State Legislative and Federal Agendas for 2015.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

The State Legislative and Federal Agendas cover many issues which impact operations of the City as well as the quality of life of the citizens of Tacoma. The issues touch all of the City's Strategic Policy Priorities:

- Strengthen and maintain a strong fiscal management position.
- Strengthen and support public safety, human services, public education, and diverse higher learning opportunities in Tacoma.
- Foster neighborhood, community and economic development vitality and sustainability.
- Plan for and improve public infrastructure that meets the transportation needs of all Tacoma residents and visitors.
- Encourage and promote an open, effective, results-oriented organization.

**BACKGROUND:**

Prior to the beginning of each year's session of Congress and the Washington State Legislature, it is beneficial for the City Council to indicate its priorities concerning issues that may come before these bodies.

Identifying priority issues helps members of the legislative and congressional delegation know which issues are most important to the City of Tacoma and helps City staff and contracted lobbyists, at both the state and federal level, to focus resources appropriately.

The agendas are drawn from the Council adopted Legislative Policy Statement. In 2014, the agendas were focused in the following categories: Economic Development; Environment; Fiscal; Neighborhoods; and Transportation.

Towards the end of each year, the City Council reviews, discusses and approves their legislative agenda for the next year to ensure that they identify the City's priority issues.



**ISSUE:**

The City has traditionally adopted a new State and Federal legislative agenda prior to the beginning of each annual session.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Council approve State Legislative and Federal Agendas in order to: give staff a clear direction and guidance needed to fulfill the Council's policy; assure we have appropriate resources and tools available at the State and Federal level; and inform our State and Federal lawmakers of the City's priority issues. The agendas will assist staff and our contracted lobbyists who advocate on behalf of the City for funding and other resources needed for the Council to meet their strategic goals. In addition, the agendas will assist the City as they work in partnership with a wide spectrum of public, private and nonprofit agencies/organizations to leverage existing resources and create new ones for the common goal of improving existing communities and meeting regional goals.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact.