



**TO:** T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
**FROM:** Randall Lewis, Government Relations Officer  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution Amending and Adopting the Legislative Policy Statement for 2015-2016 – October 7, 2014 Council Agenda  
**DATE:** September 19, 2014

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**SUMMARY:**

Resolution Amending and Adopting the Legislative Policy Statement for 2015-2016 - The City Council has established statements of policy expressing its views concerning issues which may come before the Washington Legislature and the United States Congress. It is periodically necessary to amend this document to reflect changes in position and emerging issues.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

The Legislative Policy Statement covers hundreds of issues which may impact the operation of the City, services provided by the City or the wellbeing of the citizens of Tacoma generally. These 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:**

The Legislative Policy Statement contains brief background information and policy positions on many issues which may be considered in any given session of the Washington Legislature and United States Congress. This document is not the City’s legislative agenda for any given year, but a broad statement of policy on which the City Council and City staff may be expected to express a position. It is necessary to periodically amend the policy statement as issues are resolved and change and new issues emerge.

**ISSUE:**

The City has traditionally amended the Legislative Policy Statement prior to the beginning of a new session of the Washington Legislature and United States Congress in odd-numbered years.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The changes proposed to the Legislative Policy Statement reflect the recommendation of the Government Relations Office to best align the City Council’s views on the issues covered in the document with their current status and to clarify language and address errors where needed.

Keeping this document current allows City staff to most efficiently represent the City Council’s interests before the State and Federal governments.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact.