



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The City of Medical Lake asks for legislative support on the following priorities:

ACQUISITION OF WATERFRONT PARK AND TRAIL



With Medical Lake's rural and recreation-based economy, Waterfront Park's regional draw makes it an essential resource for the City of Medical Lake. Recent legislation requiring market rate leases of government properties will result in a 40% increase to the \$125,000 annual operational costs already associated with Waterfront Park.

These increased costs can result in the loss of free public access and a reduction in outdoor recreation opportunities.

The City of Medical Lake is seeking \$1.2 million to secure the purchase of nearly 60 acres providing free access to boating, swimming, picnicking, sports fields, parks, playgrounds, and trails. The City has \$150,000 of Capital Program matching funds available.



DISASTER RESPONSE: LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUPS

Through the aftermath of the Gray Road Fire, the Medical Lake community has experienced the value of a long-term recovery group to assist in the multi-year recovery process following a natural disaster. A long-term recovery group is a cooperative organization comprised of individuals from the community that is recovering, working to assist individuals and families as they spend years rebuilding their community following a disaster. The City supports the Military Department's efforts to establish an incident management assistance team to quickly respond to disasters. Additionally, the City calls on the State Legislature to also recognize, allocate funding, and otherwise support long-term recovery groups as part of the state's response to natural disasters.



COMMUNITY POLICING SURROUNDING EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL

Medical Lake faces unique policing challenges, particularly due to Eastern State Hospital, which generates about two-thirds of the calls for law enforcement. To address this, we request continued funding for the Community Partnership Program. The 2023-25 Operating Budget allocated \$622,000 for related salaries, benefits, supplies, and equipment. Despite its success, funding requires legislative approval each fiscal biennium.



STATE PRESENCE IN THE MEDICAL LAKE COMMUNITY

Ten percent of the City of Medical Lake's 4,835 population resides in state facilities including Eastern State Hospital, Lakeland Village, Westlake, and Martin Hall Juvenile Facility. Additionally, nearly 44% of the City's geographic area is owned by state agencies. The City of Medical Lake takes immense pride in hosting these facilities as integral parts of the community. As the state explores future investments and uses of these properties, the state should exercise due diligence and consult with Medical Lake. The City of Medical Lake calls upon the state to actively engage the City with envisioned enhancements and investments in these facilities.

Medical Lake also supports the City Legislative Priorities identified by the Association of Washington Cities.

Building community and enhancing quality of life so residents and businesses can flourish in quality neighborhoods with great schools and useful parks where responsive and accountable governance provides for appropriate infrastructure and fiscal responsibility.



Waterfront Park is essential to the City of Medical Lake