

**CITY OF MEDICAL LAKE  
City Council Regular Meeting**

6:30 PM  
May 6, 2025

**MINUTES**

Council Chambers  
124 S. Lefevre Street

**NOTE: This is not a verbatim transcript.** Minutes contain only a summary of the discussion. A recording of the meeting is on file and available from City Hall.

**COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

**Councilmembers**

Chad Pritchard  
Keli Shaffer  
Lance Speirs  
Don Kennedy  
Bob Maxwell  
Ted Olson

**Administration & Staff**

Terri Cooper, Mayor  
Sonny Weathers, City Administrator  
Thomas Rohrer, Legal Counsel via Zoom  
Scott Duncan, Public Works Director  
Koss Ronholt, Finance Director  
Roxanne Wright, Administrative Clerk  
Glen Horton, Parks & Recreation Director

**REGULAR SESSION – 6:30 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

- A. Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and conducted roll call.
  - i. Council members Pritchard, Shaffer, Speirs, Kennedy, Maxwell, and Olson were all present in person.
  - ii. Councilmember Harbolt submitted an absence request due to surgery recovery. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Maxwell, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy, carried 6-0.

**2. AGENDA APPROVAL**

- A. Mayor Cooper requested to add section 4A Proclamation and presentation regarding Gabriel's Challenge.
  - i. Motion to approve agenda made by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Speirs, carried 6-0.

**3. INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS**

- A. Art Kulibert, Medical Lake resident – commented on information from the recent newsletter. Pleased to learn that Waterfront Park will be transferred to the city and that police services will be funded. Asked Mayor Cooper what the cost is for Waterfront – zero cost, just a transfer of ownership.

#### 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS / PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- A. Inspector Justin Lundgren, Spokane County Sheriff's Office – shared stats and impact of drugs on our community. 2022-2024 drug related calls quadrupled. Five-fold increase in use of Naloxone. Over 10 overdoses per day – 4000 per year. Medical Lake stats – all last year 9 overdoses, and this year to date already had 8.
- B. Kitara Johnson, mother that lost her son Gabriel to a fentanyl overdose in March 2025 – shared about Gabriel's Challenge. [www.gabrielschallenge.org](http://www.gabrielschallenge.org).
- C. Mayor Cooper read a proclamation regarding Gabriel's Challenge. See attached.

#### 5. REPORTS

- A. Committee Reports/Council Comments
  - i. Councilmember Pritchard – attended Air National Guard meeting with Spokane City Council members. Geo Walk on April 26<sup>th</sup> had about 20 participants. STEM night being held Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. Councilmember Shaffer – Finance Committee met and reviewed claim warrants. No issues.
  - iii. Councilmember Speirs – Will attend legislative STA conference May 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, will request absence from the May 20<sup>th</sup> council meeting. STA is bringing an electric bus to STEM night and will have information about the Youth Ride Free program.
  - iv. Councilmember Kennedy – Regional Transportation meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - v. Maxwell – no report
  - vi. Councilmember Olson – no report
- B. Mayor Cooper – no report
- C. City Administrator & City Staff
  - i. Sonny Weathers, City Administrator – Attended the Annual Fisherman's Breakfast on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Good flow of people and great food. Candidate filing week through Friday, the mayor's seat, 4 council positions and 2 school board positions are open. Dollars for Scholars Super Yard Sale on 5/9-10. City Clean Up Day 5/10 at Waterfront 8am-1pm. Shred Day 5/16 9-12pm at City Hall parking lot. AWC Annual Conference coming up June 24-27<sup>th</sup> in Kennewick. If any council member is interested in attending, let him know. AWC asked Medical Lake to present on disaster preparedness and leading through a natural disaster.
  - ii. Dave Yuhas, Code Enforcement Officer – Q1 Report
    - 1. Gave presentation. See attached.

#### 6. WORKSHOPS

- A. Post-Legislative Session Report
  - i. Emily Shay with Gordon Thomas Honeywell gave a presentation. See attached.
- B. Fireworks Ballot Measure For and Against Committees
  - i. Mr. Weathers gave a presentation and discussed submitting ballot measures. See attached. Council gave approval to solicit the community to fill the For and Against committees.
- C. Fee Schedule Update
  - i. Glen Horton, Parks & Recreation Director – shared about proposed fee schedule changes for parks and facility use.

#### 7. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Consent Agenda
  - i. Approve **April 15, 2025**, minutes.
    - 1. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Shaffer, carried 6-0.

- ii. Approve **May 6, 2025**, Claim Warrants numbered **52441** through **52491** in the amount of **\$398,769.35**.
  - 1. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Shaffer, seconded by Councilmember Kennedy, carried 6-0.

**8. PUBLIC HEARINGS – none**

**9. RESOLUTIONS**

- A. 25-744 Cascade Columbia Supply Agreement Amendment
  - i. Mr. Ronholt reviewed for council.
  - ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Pritchard, carried 6-0.
- B. 25-745 Personnel Policies Update – Leave Policy
  - i. Mr. Ronholt reviewed for council.
  - ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Speirs, seconded by Councilmember Shaffer, carried 6-0.
- C. 25-748 Security at Waterfront Park Agreement with Phoenix Protective Services
  - i. Mr. Weathers reviewed for council.
  - ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Pritchard, seconded by Councilmember Olson, carried 6-0.
- D. 25-749 Ecology Groundwater Study Grant Amendment
  - i. Mr. Ronholt reviewed for council.
  - ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Speirs, seconded by Councilmember Shaffer, carried 5-0-1 with Councilmember Pritchard abstaining because of his involvement with the studies.
- E. 25-750 Bid Award for Waterfront Ballfield Lights and Service Agreement with Triumph Electric
  - i. Mr. Horton reviewed for council.
  - ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Pritchard, seconded by Councilmember Speirs, carried 5-0-1 with Councilmember Kennedy abstaining due to possible conflict of interest.
- F. 25-751 Bid Award for Transportation Plan to Ardurra
  - i. Mr. Weathers reviewed for council.
  - ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Councilmember Speirs, carried 6-0.

**10. ORDINANCES**

- A. First Read 1134 2025 Q1 Budget Amendments
  - i. Mr. Ronholt reviewed for council.
  - ii. Legal counsel read for the record.
  - iii. Motion to approve first read made by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Speirs, carried 6-0.

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION - none**

**12. EMERGENCY ORDINANCES - none**

**13. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS**

**14. INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS –**

- A. Art Kulibert, Medical Lake resident – noted that he had posted to Facebook about the acquisition of Waterfront Park and that there were 50+ “thumbs up”.

**15. CONCLUSION**

- A. Motion to conclude at 8:31 pm made by Councilmember Pritchard, seconded by Councilmember Shaffer, carried 6-0.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terri Cooper, Mayor *D107a2*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Koss Ronholt, Finance Director/City Clerk

5/20/25  
Date





# City of Medical Lake Proclamation

## **The Gabriel's Challenge 36 Day Awareness Campaign Our Community Response Against Fentanyl**

WHEREAS, beginning in the mid to late 1990's prescription drugs triggered the opioid crisis and nationwide there was a silent rise in drug overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, there has been a marked increase in drug overdose deaths spurred by a rise in fentanyl, a cheap and potent synthetic opioid that traffickers mix with other illegal drugs to drive addiction and increase their profits; users are often unaware they are taking fentanyl until it is too late; and

WHEREAS, research from the State Health Data Assistance Center (SHDAC) found the annual number of overdose deaths from any kind of drug in the U.S. has multiplied nearly six times over since 2000, rising from 17,500 to over 106,000 people in 2021, and greater than 80% of those involved some form of opioids, including heroin, prescription painkillers, and, most prevalently in recent years, synthetic opioids such as fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, the public health emergency, first declared under President Trump's leadership in October 2017, due to the consequences of the opioid crisis facing the nation, was set to expire on March 21, 2025; and

WHEREAS, On March 18, 2025, Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. renewed the public health emergency declaration addressing our nation's continued opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) confirmed overdose remains the leading cause of death among Americans aged 18-44; and

WHEREAS, The Spokane Regional Opioid Task Force (SROTF) website tracked and reported 259 fentanyl deaths in 2024 and 68 to date in 2025, with 66% of those happening in homes; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the devastating toll the opioid epidemic has taken on individuals, families, and communities in the Spokane Region; and

WHEREAS, there is scarcely a family in this region who has not been touched by the epidemic of drug, alcohol or opioid addiction and the time has come and is now for mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers to take action. For too long we have looked to government agencies and non-profit services alone to solve what only the family and entire community can do; and

WHEREAS, this Mayor is calling for unity in the City of Medical Lake across all socio-economic divides to unite for the saving of this generation through love in action. We have everything needed to heal this crisis, but we lack one thing, LOVE!

Selfless LOVE acknowledging recovery is hard and painful work for all involved. Those suffering from addiction need a sense of community and family belonging, to be seen and known. LOVE is not permissive, LOVE guides to a better way and knows where the boundaries lay; and

WHEREAS, Now is time to take action. Now is the time to humble ourselves and pray to our great creator, the creator of heaven and everything in the earth, and call upon him to be merciful, to pardon our iniquity, and create in us a new heart of love and compassion for these, our dying children, a love that compels us to action; and

WHEREAS, Kitara Johnson-Jones lost her son, in a moment of relapse, to fentanyl overdose on March 3, 2025, and is calling on the community at large to join her in the Gabriel's Challenge, a time to come together to solve this drug and fentanyl epidemic in the greater Spokane region.

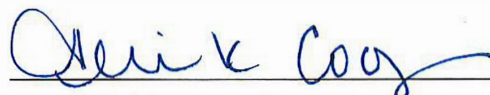
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terri Cooper, Mayor of the City of Medical Lake, Washington, in recognition of the renewed federal public health emergency declaration addressing our nation's opioid crisis and in support of The Gabriel's Challenge, 36 days of Community Transformation and Awareness of Fentanyl Overdose Deaths impacting families in the Spokane Region, do hereby declare, the period between Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, 2025 through Father's Day, Sunday, June 15, 2025 as:

**The Gabriel's Challenge – 36 Days of Community Transformation  
A Community Response Against Fentanyl**

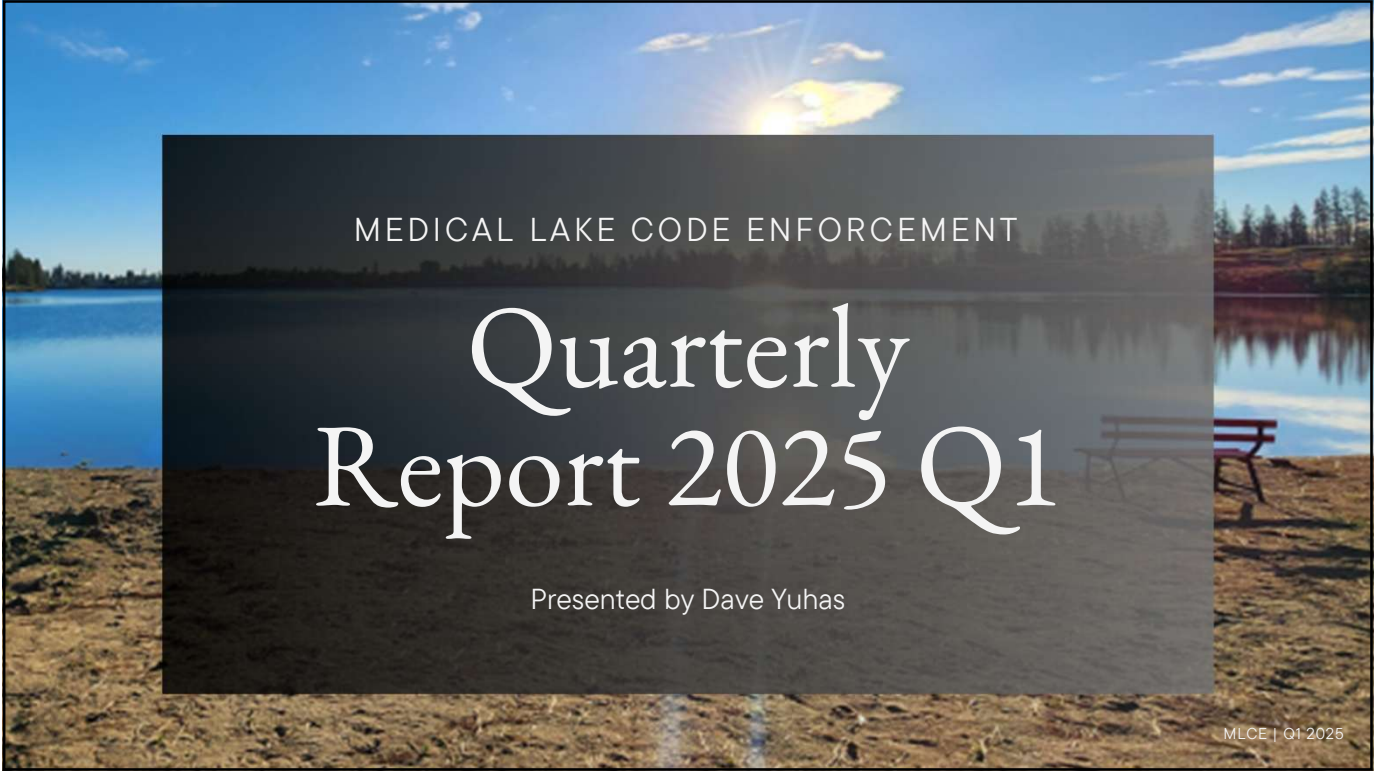
in Medical Lake, Washington, and encourage all citizens to take the challenge. Citizens are encouraged to adopt a block and get to know your neighbors, to pray, and to challenge themselves to be intentional about connecting with family members, neighbors, and those in the region who are in crisis. Together we can do great things.

Please plan to join others from the Spokane Region on Sunday May 11, 2025, at the Riverfront Park Pavilion from 6:00pm – 7:30pm for the 36 Day Kick-Off Event.

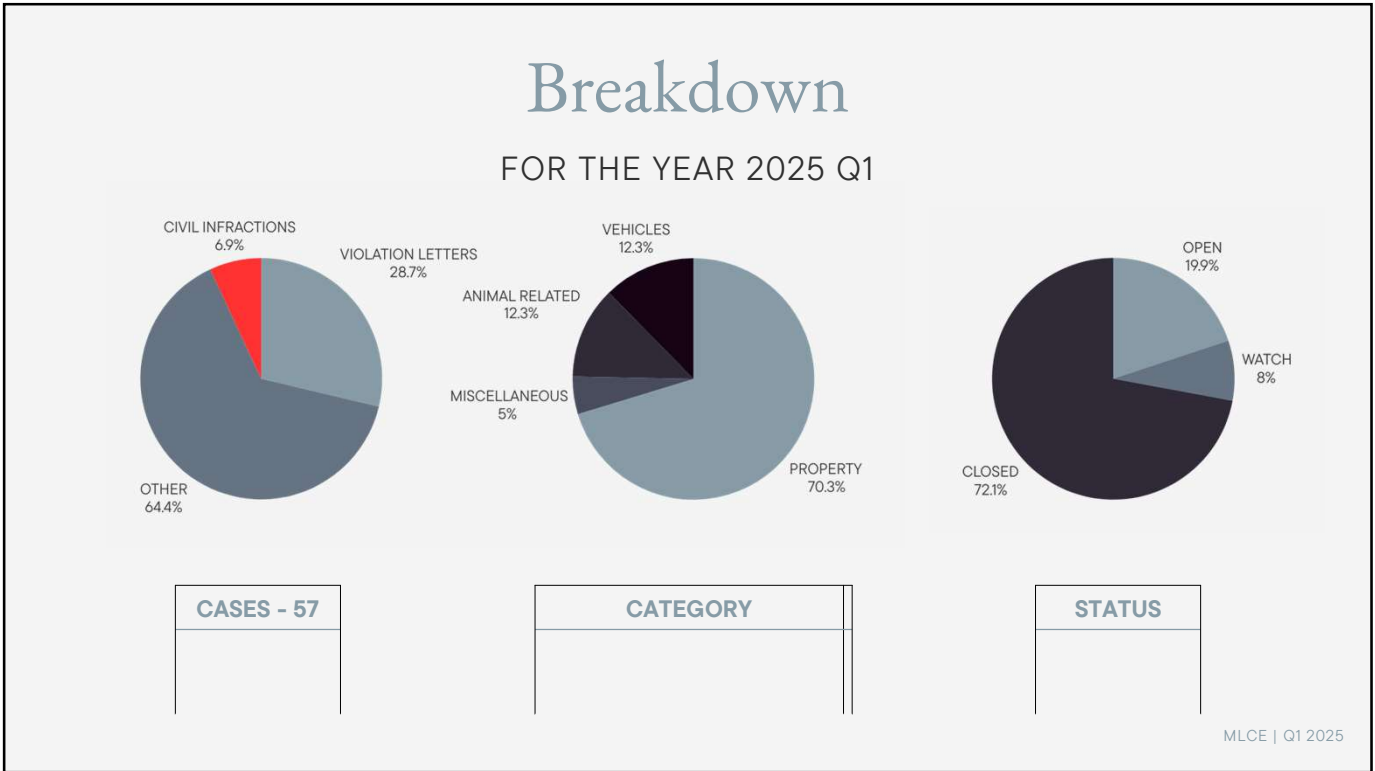
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Medical Lake to be affixed this 5th day of May 2025.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terri K. Cooper, Mayor







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## MOVING FORWARD

01	<b>LEGAL FOLLOW UP</b> I've established a new streamlined process for communicating and coordinating case details directly with the prosecutor's office.
02	<b>NEWSLETTER AND FACEBOOK</b> I plan to continue community outreach through updates on Facebook and our newsletter to keep residents informed and engaged.
03	<b>ADAPT NEW SKILLS</b> I intend to use both my existing experience and newly developed skills to better serve the community and streamline enforcement and outreach efforts.

MLCE | Q1 2025


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THANK YOU

“

Empathy is the starting point for creating a community and taking action. It's the impetus for creating change.

-MAX CARVER



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# CITY OF MEDICAL LAKE

## 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

May 6th, 2025


Emily Shay



GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

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AGENDA



OVERVIEW OF THE 2025  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION



OUTCOME OF 2025 CITY OF  
MEDICAL LAKE'S STATE  
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



NEXT STEPS

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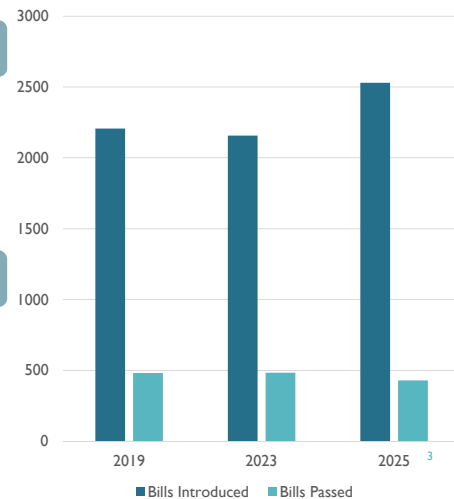
## OVERVIEW OF 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### General Context

- First year of the biennium, 105-day session
- Adopted 2025-27 operating, capital, and transportation budgets
- 2,534 bills introduced, 431 passed into law
- Any legislation that did not pass, will be reconsidered next session

### Political Context

- Democrats held the majority in House and Senate
- 24 “freshman” legislators
- New Governor in leadership



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## OVERVIEW OF 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: BUDGETS

### Operating

- Funds all state agency operations
- Revenue growth has slowed – 2022-24 revenues grew at 5.2% annually, starting in 2025 reduced to 3.5%
- \$15+ billion shortfall over 4 years
- Budget balanced with \$9.5 billion in new tax revenue and cuts
- End budget was \$77.8 Billion, with \$2.3 Billion in reserves

### Capital

- Funds public and nonprofit construction projects (excluding transportation)
- \$7.5 billion total budget
- \$201.3 million allocated for local community projects (\$231.8 million in 2023)
  - Average local community project award: \$604,000
- Several city-oriented grant programs are funded

### Transportation

- Expected \$1 billion shortfall in 2025-27
- No new project investments
- Taxes, fees and transfer from operating resulting in \$3.2 billion over the next 6 years.
- \$15.5 billion budget

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2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Waterfront Park

- **Request:** \$1.2 million for land acquisition
- **Final budget includes full government to government transfer for waterfront park from DSHS**

Community Policing

- **Request:** Increase in funding for Eastern State Hospital Community Policing Program
- **Final budget includes increased funding for ESH from \$622,000 to \$640,000**
- Senator Holy's bill to make community policing funding permanent did not pass this year

Long Term Recovery Groups

- **Goal:** Educate legislators and governor's staff on the importance of LTRG's
- Met with over 30+ legislators, the Wildfire Caucus, and governor's staff
- Established interim work with the Military Department to require an MOU by early 2026

State Presence

- **Goal:** Raise Awareness about State Facilities in Medical Lake
- **Final Budget includes \$119.8 million for State Behavioral Health Community Capacity Facilities**

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AWC LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES





Public Safety

- HB 2015 – Local public safety tax for local law enforcement recruitment, retention and training funding



Finances

- State shared revenues
- 1% property tax cap



Land Use

- Parking minimums
- GMA Extensions
- Lot splitting

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## NEXT STEPS



Thank the 6th legislative delegation – Waterfront Park

Interim Action Plan & Steps to prepare for the 2026 session

2026 Legislative Session begins January 12th

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## QUESTIONS?

***Emily Shay***

State Lobbyist  
253-753-5503  
eshay@gth-gov.com

***Briahna Murray***

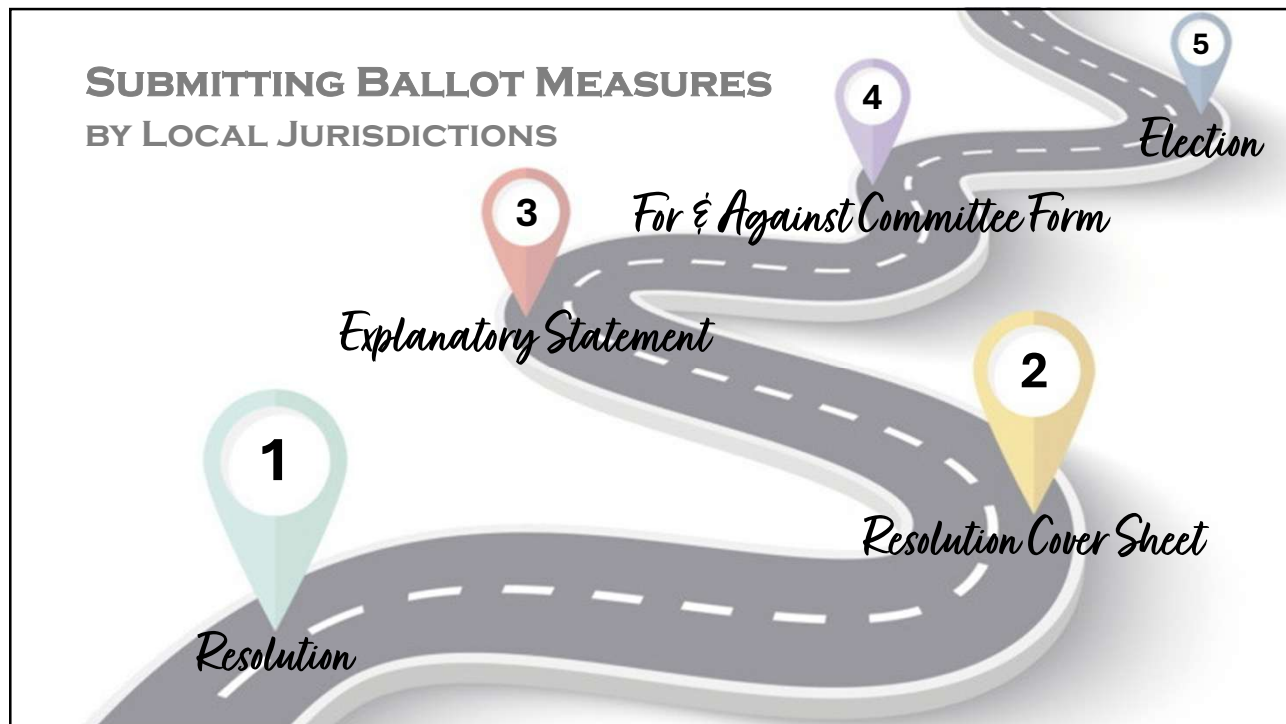
State Lobbyist, Partner  
253-310-5477  
bmurray@gth-gov.com



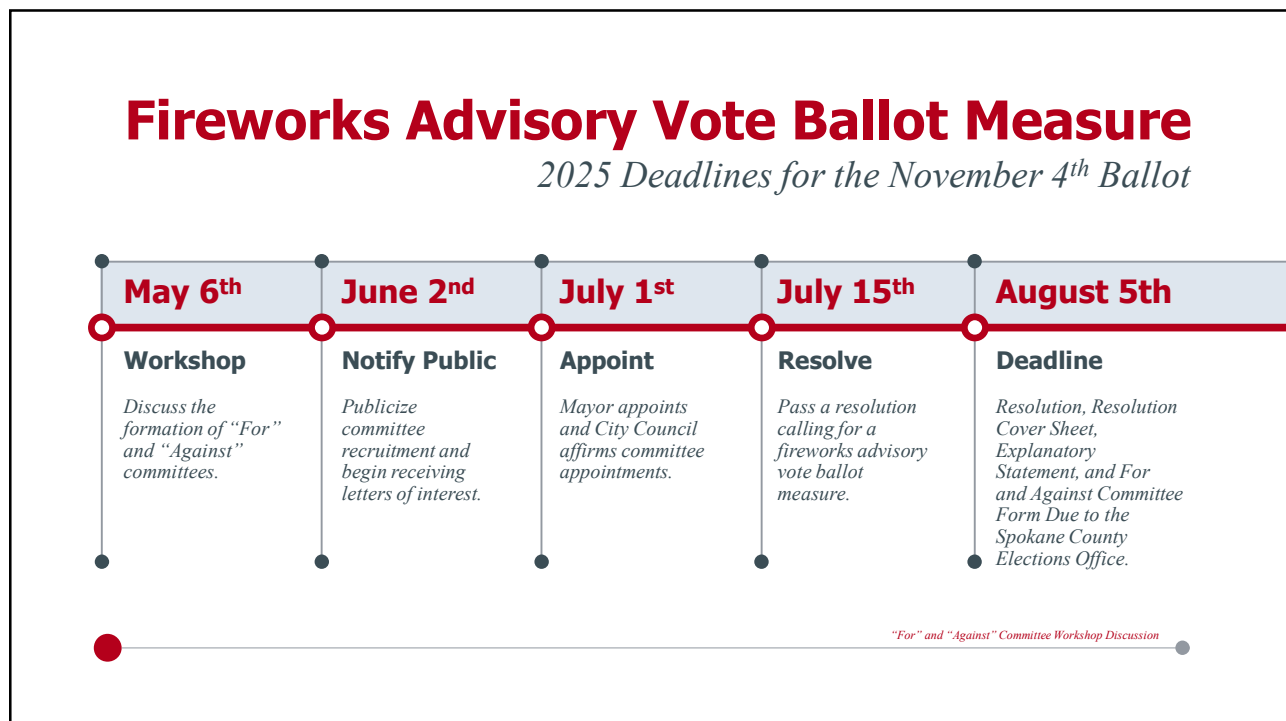
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