



City of Medical Lake

2026

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Medical Lake, Washington is 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.

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



STATUTORY FUNDING FOR 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, The City requests legislation that would make funding permanent for the Community Partnership Program (CPP), which provides a safer environment for patients, staff, and the surrounding community of ESH.

The Community Partnership Program (CPP), modeled after the established initiative at Western State Hospital, plays a vital role at Eastern State Hospital by providing emergency protection, evidence preservation, and incident investigation services. The 2025-27 Operating Budget allocates \$640,000 for related salaries, benefits, supplies, and equipment. Despite its success, funding for this program is not included in DSHS' maintenance budget and requires legislative approval each fiscal biennium.



MEDICAL LAKE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT ULTRAVIOLET DISINFECTION PROJECT

The City of Medical Lake requests \$225,000 in the 2026 supplemental capital budget to complete a shovel ready upgrade of the ultraviolet disinfection system at the Medical Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant, a Class A reclaimed water facility that serves more than 1,800 properties and supplies reclaimed water to West Medical Lake, Eastern State Hospital, and the Washington State Veterans Cemetery. The existing UV system is at the end of its lifecycle, with bulbs no longer manufactured and a single-phase power configuration that increases operating costs and limits efficiency. The proposed upgrade, transitioning to three phase power, installing modern high efficiency UV lamps, and replacing outdated electrical and control systems will reduce energy use and lower long term maintenance costs.

This investment aligns with the Healing Waters Strategic Plan by strengthening essential utility infrastructure, supporting reclaimed water sustainability, and ensuring predictable rates for residents. The City has already committed 50% matching funds through its Wastewater Restricted Fund, and engineering and design are underway for completion in June 2026. State support will allow the City to procure equipment and ensure continued protection of public health, environmental quality, and water resource resilience.

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