CITY OF MEDICAL LAKE
City Council Regular Meeting & Public Hearings

6:30 PM
October 6, 2026

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 can be accessed through the city's website www.medical-lake.org.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Councilmembers
Chad Pritchard
Lorin Ray-Abbott
Heath Wilbur
Don Kennedy
Ted Olson
Tony Harbolt

Administration & Staff
Terri Cooper, Mayor
Sonny Weathers, City Administrator
Thomas Rohrer, City Attorney (via Zoom)
Elisa Rodriguez, Senior Planner
Scott Duncan, Public Works Director
Koss Ronholt, Finance Director
Roxanne Wright, Administrative Clerk

REGULAR SESSION & PUBLIC HEARINGS – 6:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**
   A. Mayor Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, led the Pledge of Allegiance and conducted roll call.
      i. Councilmember Speirs requested an absence to attend the STA conference. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Councilmember Ray-Abbott, carried 6-0.

2. **AGENDA APPROVAL**
   A. Mayor Cooper asked to move item 11B Ordinance 1152 concerning Impact Fees before item 10AResolution 26-832 Impact Fee Methodology.
      i. Motion to approve agenda as amended made by Councilmember Harbolt, seconded by Councilmember Wilbur, carried 6-0.

3. **INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS**
   A. Lahnie Henderson, Medical Lake resident – asked questions about the proposed Clear Zone Policy and MLMC 17.41.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
   A. 2027 Legislative Session Presentation – Emily Shay with Gordon Thomas Honeywell gave a presentation. See attached.

   B. SCFD #3 EMS Levy Presentation – Chief Rohrbach shared a presentation. See attached.

5. **REPORTS**
   A. Committee Reports/Council Comments
      i. Councilmember Pritchard – none
      ii. Councilmember Ray-Abbott – none
      iii. Councilmember Wilbur – none
      iv. Councilmember Kennedy – Finance Committee met and found no issues.

v. Councilmember Olson – none
vi. Councilmember Harbolt – will attend the Citizen Advisory Committee for FD3 on Thursday night.

B. Mayor Cooper – gave update on meetings she has attended. Appointed to the Washington State Emergency Board. Attended Washington Wildfire Caucus. October newsletter is out. The commercial community kitchen work continues. Encouraged council to attend the courses for a certificate in municipal leadership. Will travel to Quincy on Friday with Mr. Duncan and a tour group from Spokane to learn about data centers.

C. City Administrator & City Staff
i. Sonny Weathers, City Administrator – Broadlinc update – tower is operational, lease payments will start to come in this month. Work continues with DSHS regarding the transfer of Waterfront Park. Legislative priorities – potential shift, gaining confidence that Federal dollars will come in for City Hall upgrades. That leaves funding capacity for possible work on the annex and library. The Spokane Conservation District will hold a Cool Canopy workshop on 10/10 10am at Peper Park. Council Budget Retreat will be on 10/14, 12-4 at Silver Lake Camp. PFAS task force meeting at City Hall on 10/21 at 6pm. Will attend the IACC meeting in Wenatchee with Mr. Duncan and Mr. Cooper. They will attend the Council meeting remotely that week.
ii. Koss Ronholt, Finance Director – Grant Application Report October 2026 – shared update, see attached. No additional applications. Watersource application submitted in September, left off report.

6. WORKSHOP DISCUSSION - None

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda
i. Approve **September 15, 2026**, minutes.
1. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Olson, seconded by Councilmember Pritchard, carried 5-0-1 with Councilmember Kennedy abstaining due to being absent from that meeting.
ii. Approve **October 6, 2026,** Claim Warrants numbered **54140** through **54191** in the amount of **$332,745.07**
1. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Wilbur, carried 6-0.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Periodic Update: Ordinance 1153 concerning Critical Areas
i. Mayor Cooper opened the hearing at 7:41pm.
ii. Ms. Rodriguez reviewed purpose for hearing. Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval with minor modifications. Reviewed the modifications. Reviewed the five categories of critical areas. Reviewed proposed language. Summarized staff report.
iii. Open for public comment. None.
iv. Mayor Cooper closed the hearing at 7:46pm.
v. Council discussion.
vi. First Read of Ordinance 1153 concerning Critical Areas
1. Legal counsel read into record.
2. Motion to approve first read made by Councilmember Wilbur, seconded by Councilmember Ray-Abbott, carried 5-1 with Councilmember Kennedy voting nay.

B. Periodic Update: Ordinance 1154 Updating the Official Zoning Map
i. Mayor Cooper opened the hearing at 7:51pm.

ii. Ms. Rodriguez reviewed purpose of hearing. Last step of periodic update. Reviewed process leading up to this update. Planning Commission reviewed and unanimously recommended approval.
iii. Open for public comment. None.
iv. Mayor Cooper closed the hearing at 7:54pm.
v. Council discussion. Councilmember Pritchard expressed concern about the vast space of low-density housing.
vi. First Read of Ordinance 1154 Updating the Official Zoning Map
    1. Legal counsel read into record.
    2. Motion to approve first read made by Councilmember Harbolt, seconded by Councilmember Olson, carried 5-1 with Councilmember Pritchard voting nay.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

10. RESOLUTIONS

A. First read of Ordinance 1152 moved here. Ms. Rodriguez reviewed.
    i. Legal counsel read into record.
    ii. Motion to approve first read made by Councilmember Pritchard, seconded by Councilmember Wilbur, carried 6-0.

B. 26-832 Impact Fee Methodology
    i. Ms. Rodriguez reviewed.
    ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Pritchard, seconded by Councilmember Wilbur, carried 6-0.

C. 26-838 Periodic Update Grant Agreement Extension
    i. Ms. Rodriguez reviewed.
    ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Wilbur, seconded by Councilmember Ray-Abbott, carried 6-0.

D. 26-839 Clear Zone Policy
    i. Mr. Duncan reviewed and explained the need for the policy due to the current project. Addressed Ms. Henderson's earlier questions. This is a separate policy from the line-of-sight ordinance that Ms. Henderson referenced. Council discussion. Mr. Weathers explained that this policy will satisfy WSDOT requirements.
    ii. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Pritchard, seconded by Councilmember Wilbur, carried 6-0.

11. ORDINANCES

A. First and Second Read of Ordinance 1140A Correction to Ordinance 1140
    i. Mr. Weathers reviewed the briefing sheet. No substantive changes, administrative only to correct a Scrivener's error. Asked Council to suspend rules and allow for a combined first and second read.
    ii. Legal counsel read into record.
    iii. Motion to suspend rules and allow first and second reading of Ordinance 1140A made by Councilmember Kennedy, seconded by Councilmember Olson, carried 6-0.
    iv. Motion to approve first and second read made by Councilmember Ray-Abbott, seconded by Councilmember Wilbur, carried 6-0.

B. See items 8A and 8B

12. EMERGENCY ORDINANCES – none

13. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS - none

14. INTERESTED CITIZENS

A. Lahnie Henderson, resident of Medical Lake – thanked Mr. Duncan for clarification. Asked for update on depot property. Will be provided at anupcoming meeting.

15. CONCLUSION

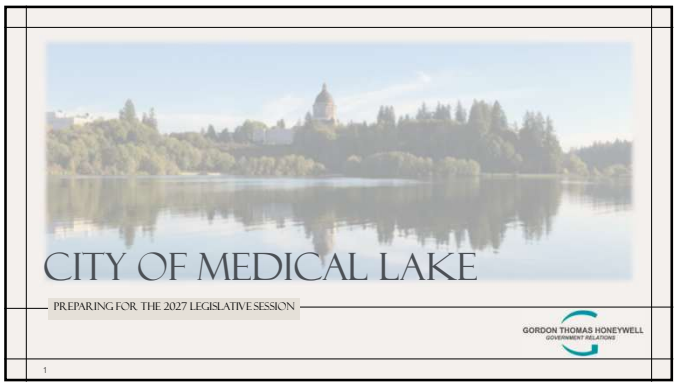
A. Motion to conclude at 8:16pm made by Councilmember Pritchard, seconded by Councilmember Wilbur, carried 6-0.

Terri ~~Cooper~~, Mayor Pro Tem

Koss Ronholt, Finance Director/City Clerk

10/20/2026

Date


CITY OF MEDICAL LAKE
PREPARING FOR THE 2027 LEGISLATIVE SESSION
GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
1

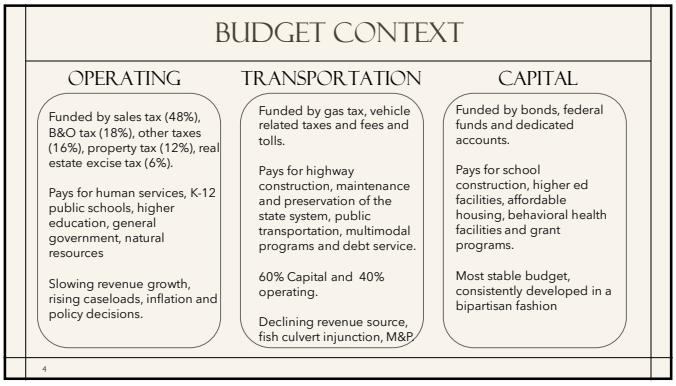
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AGENDA
2027 SESSION PREVIEW
LEGISLATIVE AGENDA GUIDANCE
DRAFT LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
NEXT STEPS
2

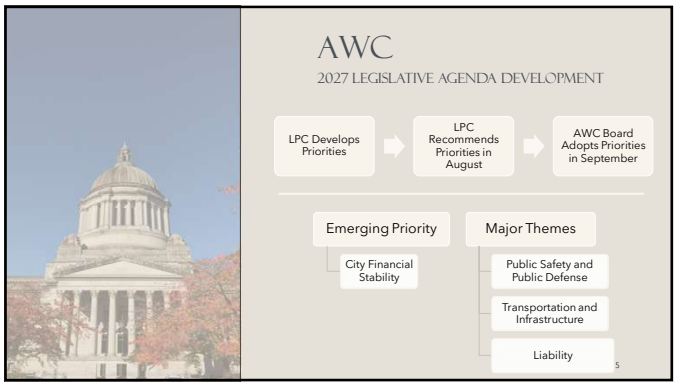
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2027 SESSION PREVIEW
First year of the two-year biennium
105-day "long" session
Democrat majorities likely
Legislative Reorganization
Committee Changes
Potential Leadership Changes
Major Themes
Constrained Operating & Transportation Budgets
Ongoing Tax Policy Discussions
Affordability
Continuation of prior efforts
3

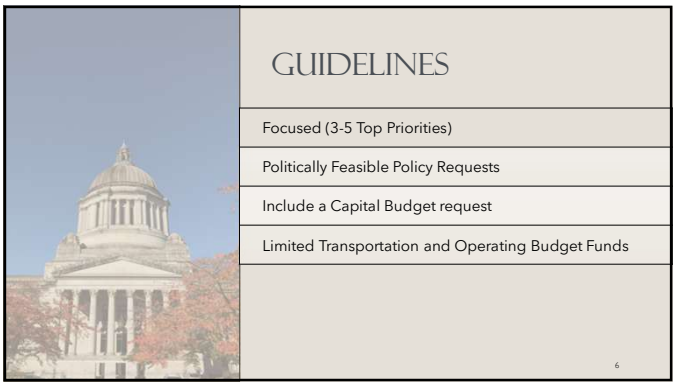
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BUDGET CONTEXT
OPERATING
Funded by sales tax (48%), B&O tax (18%), other taxes (16%), property tax (12%), real estate excise tax (6%).
Pays for human services, K-12 public schools, higher education, general government, natural resources
Slowing revenue growth, rising caseloads, inflation and policy decisions.
TRANSPORTATION
Funded by gas tax, vehicle related taxes and fees and tolls.
Pays for highway construction, maintenance and preservation of the state system, public transportation, multimodal programs and debt service.
60% Capital and 40% operating.
Declining revenue source, fish culvert injunction, M&P.
CAPITAL
Funded by bonds, federal funds and dedicated accounts.
Pays for school construction, higher ed facilities, affordable housing, behavioral health facilities and grant programs.
Most stable budget, consistently developed in a bipartisan fashion
4

4


AWC
2027 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA DEVELOPMENT
LPC Develops Priorities
LPC Recommends Priorities in August
AWC Board Adopts Priorities in September
Emerging Priority
City Financial Stability
Major Themes
Public Safety and Public Defense
Transportation and Infrastructure
Liability
5

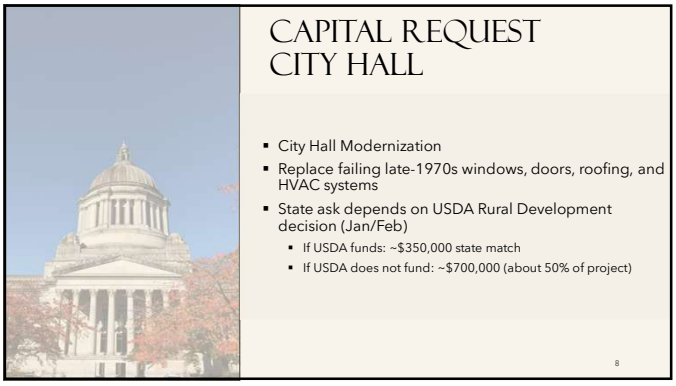
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GUIDELINES
Focused (3-5 Top Priorities)
Politically Feasible Policy Requests
Include a Capital Budget request
Limited Transportation and Operating Budget Funds
6

6


PRIORITY TOPICS
Capital Request: City Hall Modernization
Permanent Community Partnership Program Funding
"Legacy Developed Areas" Growth Management Act Amendment
Disaster Property Tax Relief
PFAS Mitigation at No Name Ditch
7

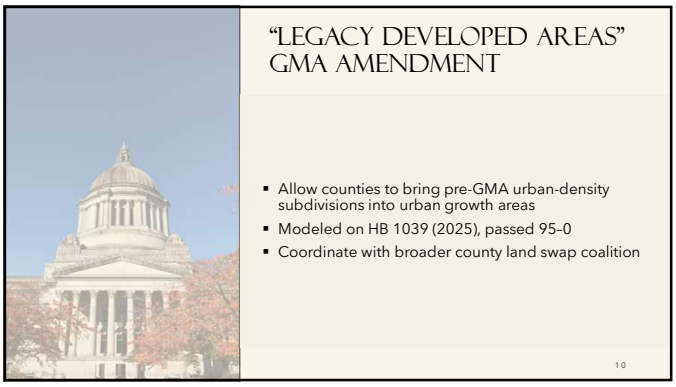
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CAPITAL REQUEST
CITY HALL
City Hall Modernization
Replace failing late-1970s windows, doors, roofing, and HVAC systems
State ask depends on USDA Rural Development decision (Jan/Feb)
If USDA funds: ~$350,000 state match
If USDA does not fund: ~$700,000 (about 50% of project)
8

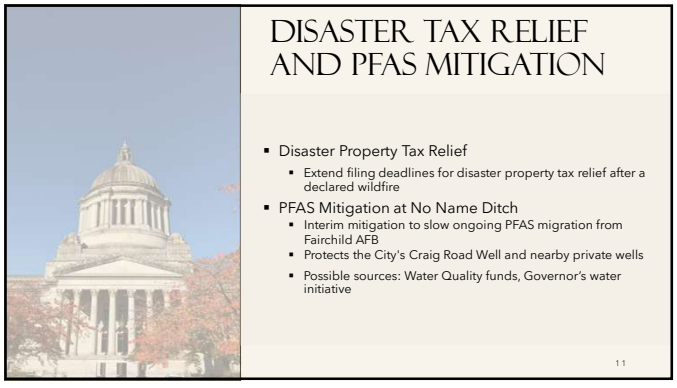
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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FUNDING
▪ Supports law enforcement response tied to Eastern State Hospital
▪ Currently funded on a temporary, cycle-by-cycle basis
▪ Request: make funding permanent
9

9


"LEGACY DEVELOPED AREAS" GMA AMENDMENT
▪ Allow counties to bring pre-GMA urban-density subdivisions into urban growth areas
▪ Modeled on HB 1039 (2025), passed 95–0
▪ Coordinate with broader county land swap coalition
10

10


DISASTER TAX RELIEF AND PFAS MITIGATION
▪ Disaster Property Tax Relief
▪ Extend filing deadlines for disaster property tax relief after a declared wildfire
▪ PFAS Mitigation at No Name Ditch
▪ Interim mitigation to slow ongoing PFAS migration from Fairchild AFB
▪ Protects the City's Craig Road Well and nearby private wells
▪ Possible sources: Water Quality funds, Governor's water initiative
11

11


NEXT STEPS
Council Discussion & Approval of Legislative Priorities
Early engagement with stakeholders & legislators
November Election
Brief State Legislators on City Priorities
12

12


QUESTIONS?
Emily Shay
State Lobbyist
253-753-5503
eshay@gth-gov.com
GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
13

13

SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 3

2026 EMS Levy

Proposition No. 1 • Public Information Presentation

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

1

PROPOSITION NO. 1

EMS Levy at a Glance

$0.50	+14	+2	900+ Emergencies
per $1,000 assessed value	additional full-time	more 24/7 staffed stations	Reached in primary response area
$4.17/month per $100,000	firefighter/EMTs	Two additional staffed locations	Guaranteed Response

Staffed stations in Cheney and Spangle, rounding out the four corners of the District.

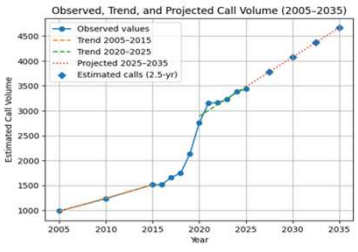
The firefighter/EMTs funded by the levy would respond to all-hazard incidents across the entire District, which includes medical emergencies.

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

2

EMERGENCY DEMAND

Why More Staffing?



4–5%

Annual Growth in emergency call volume

CURRENT WORKFORCE:

Volunteer firefighters/EMTs — 120-140*
Career line-staff firefighter/EMTs — 19
Chief Officers — 5

WORKLOAD IS OUTPACING THE WORKFORCE

*we are already the largest volunteer workforce in WA state by almost 2x

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

3

HOW SCFD3 DELIVERS EMS

Why an EMS Levy?

≈75%

of SCFD3 emergency calls are medical

EMS IS DELIVERED BY ALL-HAZARD FIREFIGHTER/EMTs

The same responders are available for fires, vehicle crashes, rescues, wildland fires and other emergencies.

The levy is legally dedicated to EMS. SCFD3 provides that EMS response through firefighter/EMTs working within the District's all-hazard emergency response system.

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

4

CURRENT FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Financial Outlook

ZERO DEBT
Budget
SCFD3 plans ahead for facilities and equipment

⬆50%
Fire vehicle cost

⬆45%
Fuel Costs
since March

-2
positions eliminated
full-time firefighter positions in 2026

Our six-year financial forecast shows current staffing and services are not sustainable long term without additional revenue.

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

5

RESPONSE CAPACITY

What Would Two More 24/7 Staffed Stations Change?

CURRENT STAFFED CREWS

1,100 TIMES EACH YEAR

Medical Lake and Four Lakes crews leave their primary station areas to respond elsewhere.

That can be as often as 3 times or more a day.

WITH ADDITIONAL 24/7 STAFFING

2 of 11 → 4 of 11

STATIONS STAFFED 24/7

Doubling our 24/7 staffed response would relieve growing pressure on our volunteer workforce, helping make volunteer firefighting more sustainable while improving response times across much of the district.

900+ emergency calls annually would gain a guaranteed response from a 24/7 staffed location.

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

6

NOVEMBER 3 BALLOT

What Does the Vote Mean?

IF APPROVED

- 14 additional firefighter/EMTs
- Two additional 24/7 staffed stations
- Stabilize current response capacity
- Add capacity for growing emergency demand

IF NOT APPROVED

- Further staffing reductions will be required
- Some services may be reduced
- Fewer crews available for simultaneous emergencies
- Emergency response capacity will decline

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

7

LEARN MORE

Questions?

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

Election Day • November 3, 2026

Spokane County Fire District 3

SCFD3.org/EMSlevy2026

8

GRANTS UPDATE

Period: September 2026

	Opportunity Reviewed	Applications	Awarded
Period	3	0	0
Year-to-Date	22	9	1

Grant Applications

Application	Amount	Awarding Agency	Match	Federal or State	Status
Fox Hollow Trail Project	$15,000	WA Cities Insurance Authority	0%	State	Awarded
Coney Island Dock	$50,000	T-Mobile	0%	Private	Applied
Fox Hollow Trail Resurfacing (2nd opp)	$131,000	WA Recreation & Conservation Office	30%	State	Applied
Waterfront Master Plan	$75,000	Recreation & Conservation Office	30%	State	Applied
City Hall Public Safety Infrastructure Modernization	$1.4m	Congressionally Directed Spending (USDA-RD/HUD-EDI)	25%	Federal	Short List
	$1,671,000				

Definitions

Reviewed – Grant opportunities found for City by Grant Writer
Application – Grant Writer authorized to write application for grant opportunity.
Awarded – Application was approved by awarding agency

Active Grants

Grant	Awarded	Awarding Agency	Match	Federal or State	Progress
SLFRF (ARPA)	$1.3m	US Dept of the Treasury	0%	Federal	99%
Lefevre St Restriping (Design phase)	$639,400	Transportation Improvement Board	8%	State	100%
Groundwater Study	$450,000	Dept of Ecology	0%	State	99%
Wastewater Improv. Engineering	$291,000	Dept of Commerce	$9000	State	20%
Periodic Update	$40,625	Dept of Commerce	0%	State	100%
Backup Generators	$931,133	FEMA	12.5%	Federal	97%
Stormwater Mitigation	$970,000	Dept of Commerce	25%	State	15%
Road Maintenance 2025	$160,337	Transportation Improvement Board	5%	State	100%
Cyber Security Grant	$11,405	Military Department	0%	Federal	100%
UV System Upgrade	$225,040	Dept of Commerce	0%	State	25%
Fox Hollow Trail Project	$15,000	WCIA	0%	Ins. Pool	100%
	$5,033,940				

Notes: