

## 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The City of Carnation supports an active partnership between the State of Washington and the Local Governments of our State in growing our economy, enhancing community quality of life and protecting the health and safety of our communities. In that regard, the City of Carnation generally supports the efforts represented on our behalf by the Sound Cities Association, Association of Washington Cities, and Snoqualmie Valley Government Association. Additionally, the City of Carnation specifically seeks the State's assistance as follows:

### MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is a key concern for Carnation and the State. We have seen the impacts of COVID isolation take a toll on our community. It has disproportionately affected the youth and seniors. These two groups have really suffered with lack of social contact with friends and loved ones.

Mental health is also key to combating the homeless problem in the region. The lack of support for people with mental conditions and/or drug and alcohol addiction issues, have compounded the homeless problem. The first step in helping people should be addressing mental health and addiction issues.

The dam false alarm with Seattle Public Utilities has really affected our citizens. There is an urgent need for mental health resources for people that were severely traumatized by this event.

Support community based mental health resources like The Snoqualmie Valley Community Network and Sno-Valley Senior Center.

### BROADBAND IMPROVEMENTS ALONG THE SR 203 CORRIDOR

Broadband is vital to social and economic functions as we look at the need to keep households connected, add businesses, and continue to grow and maintain existing businesses during these unprecedented times. The increase in remote work and learning options has continued to compound the lack of adequate broadband service.

Deficiencies in broadband access along the SR 203 Corridor leave households in our area unable to connect for work and educational purposes. Greater public investment in broadband infrastructure is needed to support basic access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities for our community.

### POLICE REFORM

Work with our partners in law enforcement to clarify and codify the legislative intent of house bills 1310 and 1054 to remove the ambiguities that create fear, uncertainty, and doubt for police officers. Plug the gaps in the legislation that make Carnation's citizens worry about whether their police will be able to help them if called. Clarify whether Washington police officers are allowed to choose less-lethal projectiles instead of lethal rounds should those less-lethal options happen to be larger than .50 caliber. Consider revising some of the provisions related to crisis intervention until such time that the Legislature provides funding and resources for alternatives to arrest and involuntary commitment.

## STATE-SHARED REVENUE

- Continue to fully fund support the State’s **Public Works Trust Fund**, which is a critical ongoing source of low-cost capital improvement project funding for cities.
  - Thank you for preventing it being swept last year!
  - During this time Cities need help making critical infrastructure upgrades.
  - These infrastructure upgrades are also the fastest way to create much needed jobs.
- Support **Transportation Improvement Board** funding. This funding is critical to the City’s efforts to maintain and rebuild our crumbling street infrastructure.
- Work to increase local government **shared revenues** and resist cutting and to fund State needs (i.e. liquor tax, marijuana tax, etc.).

## COVID RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

The current relief program has been very difficult for our businesses to take advantage of. The “strings” that are attached to it are too cumbersome to navigate and qualify for. A future program needs to let the city have greater latitude in dispersing funds.

### TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Fund capacity improvements for regional corridors in eastern King County that are experiencing increasing congestions and delays, specifically **SR 202, SR 203, and SR 522**. Congestion on these roads has created an environment where drivers seek alternative routes and SR 203 has become a “cut through” corridor.

One item that has been extremely concerning is the amount of time it has taken to repair SR-203 between Carnation and Duvall. There was a temporary fix that was completed last year. That is a major road and is vital to the transportation and safety of the valley. It is one of our only evacuation routes if SPU’s dam had a failure.

### CITY HALL/COMMUNITY CENTER/EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC)

We would like to thank our State Senator Mark Mullet with State Representatives Ramos and Callan for delivering much needed funding to help with this project. Thank you for all your hard work on this!

### CARNATION CITY COUNCIL

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