City of Woodland
2014 Legislative Priorities

1. Unfunded Mandates and Do No Harm

The city will strongly oppose any legislation that would preempt authority traditionally and historically vested with local government or impose new or additional unfunded mandates. The City also asks that existing state shared revenues remain intact and liquor taxes withheld in 2012 and 2013 be restored.

2. Transportation

- Urge state lawmakers to develop and refer to the voters a comprehensive new transportation revenue package with direct distribution to cities and counties.
- Urge passage of legislation that would provide local-option authority to create a "Street Utility" that would provide a new tool to local governments in support of local transportation maintenance and preservation.
- Support future funding for the Scott Ave Reconnection Project after the city completes the NEPA study and preliminary engineering in 2014.

3. Personnel Costs

- LEOFF 1 Medical and Long-term Care Costs-these costs continue to be a major concern and the City will support efforts to identify a means through which the State could provide financial support for the extraordinary costs associated with these two mandates of law.
- Pension contribution rates- we call on the Legislature to fully fund the employer contribution rates as recommended by the State Actuary. We are concerned over the growing unfunded liability of Tier One systems and the potential for major increases in employer contribution rates in the future.
- The City believes it is time for collective bargaining reform. We need help in keeping costs down for pensions, medical insurance, and salaries. There needs to be more fairness in the binding interest arbitration statutes to level the playing field.

4. **Marijuana and Collective Gardens**

The City is struggling with the marijuana and collective gardens law passed by the Legislature two years ago. The City asks the Legislature to clarify the law so that we can pass zoning and other laws to comply with the intent of the law. We would support a change in the law that would put medical marijuana under the control of the Liquor Control Board as per Initiative 502. The City also believes that revenues received by the state under Initiative 502 needs to be shared with the local jurisdictions since the enforcement of this law is primarily at the local level.

5. **Public Safety**

- The City supports efforts by the WA Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to enhance current sex offender reporting requirements; strengthen current gang laws and provide funding for both prevention and intervention; and to secure funding for maintenance of K-12/Higher Education critical incident mapping system.
- Medical Costs for offenders-The City would like further state support to cover extraordinary costs.

6. **Regulatory Relief and Revenue Flexibility**

1. Public Records Requests have become a burden on local government by persons who are abusing the intent of the law. We support government transparency but a solution to the abuse of the system is needed.
2. Support AWC legislation to "pause" a number of pending regulatory and statutory mandates facing cities, including:
    - Delay DOE proposed Storm water regulations
    - Delay DOE proposed Reclaimed Water permit regulations
    - Expand SEPA exemptions

3. Support AWC legislation that would provide greater flexibility in how local revenues can be spent, including REET, Lodging taxes and Gambling taxes.