



Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee Recommendations

Table of Contents |

1	Social Media Policy <i>Officials Handbook</i>
2	Council Agenda Modifications <i>Officials Handbook</i>
3	Cemetery
4	Climate Change Impacts
5	Contracting
6	Court
7	Economic Development
8	Emergency Management
9	Financial Management
10	Franchise Agreements
11	Frivolous
12	Insurance
13	Law Enforcement
14	Local Budget Law
15	Parks
16	Personnel
17	Planning
18	Public Meetings Law
19	Sewer
20	Storm
21	Technology
22	Third Party Concepts
23	Tort Limits
24	Water



The City advises all officials of the organization to observe these digital participation guidelines when participating in online conversations regarding the City of Brownsville.

Guidelines | Core Principles

1. Honesty about who you are
2. Clarity that your opinions are your own
3. Respect & humility in all communication
4. Good judgement in sharing only public information
5. Awareness that what you say is permanent

Make it clear that the views expressed are yours. Somewhere on your platforms include the following statement: "I am an official of the City of Brownsville, but this is my own opinion and not the opinion of the City.

You speak for yourself, but your actions reflect on the City. Realize that people will form an opinion based on your behavior online.

Disclosure. Do not disclose any confidential information or non-public City information like personal information of other members.

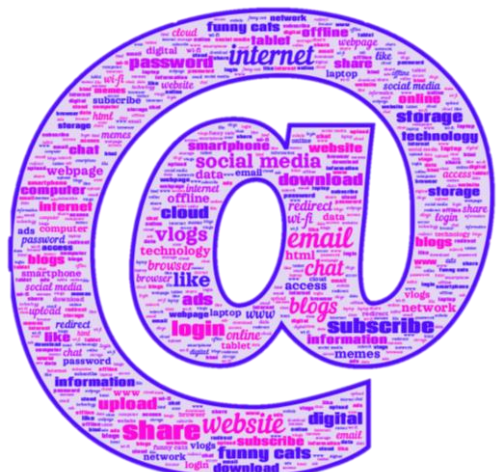
An official response may be needed. If you spot a potential issue that may need to be officially addressed, please contact the Public Information Officer. Issues can often be resolved more effectively if they are identified quickly. The City encourages public participation at all public meetings.

The Internet is a public space. Consider that everyone will see your post no matter how obscure. Reporters, colleagues, Staff, friends, family – anyone can see what you have posted. Once posted, many things are permanent. Be sure you mean what you say and say what you mean, carefully.

Mind your manners. Acknowledge differences of opinion, and respectfully withdraw from discussions that go off topic or become profane. You know you have your opinion, but so do others.

When in doubt, ask. If you have any questions about what is appropriate, play it smart and check with the City Administrator before posting.

Post thoughtfully. Give your words a thorough read before posting. Remember, only post it if you would say it out loud. Always substantiate your claims.



Council Meeting Agenda & Conduct Recommendations

Purpose: In order to maintain professionalism, respect, and public clarity, Council agrees to the following:

Council Process

★ Regular Session Meetings

- ▶ Under Agenda Item 7. Department Reports, G. Council
 - Members reporting under this item on Council agenda shall only report on liaison or committee assignments.

- ▶ Under Agenda Item 13. Council Questions & Comments
 - Councilors commenting on non-agenda items will have a three-minute time limit.
 - Councilors shall provide Staff & Council with a written preview of non-agenda items, as part of the Council agenda packet, as a courtesy.

- ▶ Conducting Personal Advocacy Meetings
 - Councilors or officials of the City may from time to time decide to conduct a public meeting that expresses their personal perspectives and beliefs. These types of meetings may cause public confusion. To remediate any public confusion, officials must disclose the nature of the meeting with anyone attending the meeting in writing through a Statement of Purpose. The Statement of Purpose should be posted for everyone to see.
 - Require a Statement of Purpose that is shared with officials and Staff prior to any such meeting.

Adoption: Council will include these items in the Officials Handbook under Section VI. Agenda

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Cemetery

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The City operates a cemetery and the State of Oregon already has many regulations are cemetery services. The City must be vigilant to ensure that no new requirements could cause more fiscal concerns for the City in this area.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Climate Change Impacts

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State of Oregon is promoting many climate change policies that will forever change the way cities operated. Unfortunately, the State is no concerned about what cities are already doing but are more interested in public opinion around what should be done instead of a scientific approach to public policy. No other area will cost taxpayers and ratepayers more than poor public policy around climate initiatives.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Contracting

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

So many laws already restrict local governments from contracting effectively for goods and services. However, nearly every legislative session someone come sup with a new scheme to ‘pull a fast one’ on the taxpayers or ratepayers. Cities should have broader control over contracting for goods and services and those decisions should be left to local control.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill’s projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Court

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The City operates its court through Linn County, however, legislative requirements could cause the City additional expense or negatively impact services to residents. The City should be in touch with the District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office on issues around court services.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Economic Development

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State of Oregon lags behind every other state in terms of economic development incentives and tools that can be used by local governments to attract and retain employers. Now, climate change policies enacted by the State and that are proposed will be lead to other significant barriers that will result in slowing or choking economic growth. The City should champion any effort that allows local control on economic development matters. The State of Oregon has had a heavy handed, top down approach to development for many years.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Emergency Management

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State recently attempted to push climate change initiatives through emergency management services. Many cities pushed back on this overreach and were temporarily successful at stopping the regulations. Linn County performs this function, however, the City does have the Emergency Preparedness Committee and at any time could be forced to comply with all NIMS requirements which are the Federal standard for emergency management, operations and recovery. The City has been working with surrounding communities to increase awareness, education and general preparedness. Preparation ultimately is an individual prerogative.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Financial Management

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Budget law is wrought with so many unnecessary requirements that fly in the face of pragmatic, or basic budgeting principles. Audit laws are already all encompassing yet the State continues to pass legislation that does not aim to do much other than cost cities more money for the regulations being imposed. City's need to better monitor this 'close looped' system that always results in more State control, more money being charged by third-party auditors and less local control.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Franchise Agreements

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Cities ability to regulate franchise agreements is always under attack either at the national or State level. Cities utilize franchise agreements to provide utilities such as electricity, natural gas, cable television, phone services, internet and other vital utilities. Cities have used franchise agreements to ensure the utility complies with local rules, supplies revenue, and meets customer expectations and needs. Any change to the City's ability to direct agreements should be closely monitored. Executing franchise agreements is already a costly endeavor as the utility companies have legal teams dedicated to stiling the field in their favor. Every time a City loses authority, the advantage goes against local citizens.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Frivolous

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State of Oregon has many rules that crop up from the bureaucracy that are unconstitutional, overly burdensome, completely unnecessary or otherwise. Cities should always be on the look out to eliminate this kind of government waste.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Insurance

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Insurance is a tricky topic to cover because the impact on insurance coverage is complex and vast. Statements by the State government can directly led to higher insurance premiums such as the case with seismic predictions and earthquake insurance. Tort limits continuing to climb and climate change initiatives will continue to see large increases in insurance premiums and new requirements. Cybersecurity, identity theft and other insurance products continue to evolve all of which bring a host of requirements on insurance holders.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Law Enforcement

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Since the national social justice movement in 2020, law enforcement has been under the microscope with policy makers taking aim at nearly every aspect of police service and the judicial system. Even prior to 2020, law enforcement services have been under intense scrutiny which has led to many positive changes in law enforcement services. The City contract with the Linn County Sheriff's Office and should be in tune with the Sheriff's Office and the District Attorney's Office to be aware of policies that may negatively impact public safety.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Local Budget Law

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State need to overhaul many of the local budget law requirements that cause unnecessary expense and effort, but in the mean time cities need to be vigilant at preventing more unnecessary requirements from coming to fruition.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Parks

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State took aim at recreational immunity in 2016 and adopted HB 3115 in 2022 which are policies that could prove to be detrimental to the way the City operates the park system. Over the years, professional associations have been successful at requiring regulations for park playground equipment along with a host of other requirements that drive up the cost for operating a park system. Park use and operational elements should be monitored.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Personnel

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Every year the State of Oregon modifies or requires employers to implement policies that put undue strain on small operations such as cities. Cities have been collectively silent on this very impactful topic. Push back must happen even toward repeal of constrictive legislation that puts cities in inoperable conditions given workers rights. Small offices do not have the financial wherewithal to accomplish these policies.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Planning

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State of Oregon over-regulates planning to a whole new level of micromanaging. It already feels that it is too late to combat the heavy handed approach the State of Oregon has adopted through the years and is wielding unflinchingly through Climate Change policies and other ‘problems’ that all have been generated by the State’s policies. The City should be vigilant working with other cities to oppose as many new regulations as possible if those regulations are mandatory and unfunded.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill’s projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Public Meetings Law

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State of Oregon just gave OGEC rulemaking authority and oversight of the public meetings law. Oregon already has restrictive laws that limit public bodies unnecessarily in many ways, especially in executive session matters. Cities should be more protective of their rights to run their cities.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Sewer

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Any legislation that effects the City's ability to handle sewer must be monitored extremely closely. Changes are handed down through the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The State is notorious for over-regulating all environmental affairs which causes major hardship to end-users such as the City's customers. Recently, rules are being cross-promoted with Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Any new monitoring requirements, treatments methods or any legislation that would result in additional infrastructure should be carefully reviewed.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Storm

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) already has complete control over TMDL requirements that are going to be extremely costs to the rate payers and tax payers of the City. The City already has advanced stormwater policies, but the State wants total control. In 2022, the State deemed all cities in the State of Oregon DMA's or Designated Management Agencies requiring new TMDL requirements. The City hired Dyer Partnership to complete the DMA Five-Year TMDL Plan and Staff continues to report, monitor and implement what the City is already being forced to do.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Technology

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence bring a host of problems for nearly every Oregonian. The City must be up-to-speed on technological issues and the massive impact these issues have on City operations.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Third Party Concepts

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Cities must watch for bills that attempt to limit their ability to provide services and maintenance through third-party arrangements. Many scheme to monopolize cities ability to provide a host of services for their private gain.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Tort Limits

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

The State of Oregon has had a trend of raising tort limits over the past several legislative sessions. These extensions of liability has directly led to insurance rates going up costing ratepayers and taxpayers more money. The only people winning in this equation are the lawyers who are able to bring cases against the public which mostly get settled out of court but serve to drive premiums.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council

Water

Position Statement

Prefatory Statement

Any legislation that effects the City's ability to supply water to customers must be monitored extremely closely. Changes are handed down through the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Increasingly, over recent years, rules are also being cross-promoted through Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Often new regulations start with a monitoring phase followed by significant potential infrastructure requirements. One hot button national issue is PFA's and lead neither of which are actively impacting Oregon.

One other facet to monitor are any changes in required testing or treatment methods.

Audience

Varies depending on the given issue.

Statement of Facts

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will review the issues as identified and render a statement of facts based on the language of the bill.

Statement of Analysis

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will render an analysis of the bill's projected impact that includes a policy, financial and operational analysis.

Recommendation

The Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) will file an official recommendation with Council on any such bill for Council review, edit and approval.

Date Approved by Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC)

Date Approved by Council