



2014 Legislative Agenda

Tigard, Oregon

"She flies with her own wings." –Judge Jessie Quinn Thornton

2014 Policy Issues of Interest:

■ Referral Regarding the Legalization of Marijuana

Should the legislature decide to take up the issue of referring to voters a measure legalizing the recreational use of marijuana, Tigard would like to be involved in those discussions, particularly as they relate to: the governing agency responsible for oversight; public safety; local licensing, siting and zoning authority; production limits and taxation; and revenue distribution.

■ Local Improvement Districts

Cities rely on local improvement districts to complete important upgrades to infrastructure that benefits a local area within the city's boundaries. Tigard would oppose legislation limiting the ability of cities to use this financing mechanism. Tigard supports the beneficiaries of specific improvements bearing the cost of those improvements, instead of the general taxpayer funding these projects from the limited general funds.

■ 9-1-1 Tax on Prepaid Wireless

While the legislature extended the sunset date for the 9-1-1 tax on telecommunication services, the prepaid cellphone market remains outside this important revenue source. With prepaid phones becoming an increasing portion of the industry and such phones being used to access the emergency service system, we believe that the work of finalizing the collection mechanism for such a fee must be finished in the 2014 session and the prepaid cellphone users will thereby pay their fair share for this vital service.

■ Water Supply Development Fund Appropriations

Tigard supports clarifying the appropriation of lottery bonds from the Water Supply Development Fund. This fund was established in 2013 legislation, which included authorization for two specific projects — the state \$1.5 million match for a water reallocation project in the Willamette Basin and a \$750,000 fund for a comprehensive basin study for the Deschutes Basin. In 2013, \$10 million was appropriated to the development fund and the two projects now need a budget note to finalize the funding outside the loan and grant process as laid out in the authorizing bill.

■ Labor and Supervisor Management

Tigard would once again oppose changes to Oregon's collective bargaining law that would place supervisory employees into collective bargaining units and require midterm bargaining to be subjected to binding arbitration. Similarly, Tigard would urge caution in regard to changing Oregon's public contracting code in a short session. Public contracting is an area fraught with complications that require robust deliberations not offered in the time available.

■ Franchise Fees

Tigard supports the League of Oregon Cities' effort to address the differences in franchise fees charged to different types of telecommunication companies. While we appreciate the need for equity, Tigard and the LOC are concerned about proposed legislation that would alter the statutory basis for franchise fees. We prefer that the discussions started in 2013 continue through a work group and present a solution for possible consideration in the 2015 session.

Ongoing Areas of Focus:

- **Economic development/jobs**
Support policies and initiatives that encourage workforce retention.
- **Transportation**
Support additional funding, efficiencies and program support for multimodal transportation projects.
- **Financial stability**
Support policies and legislation that allow local control and maintain and strengthen the state’s commitment to the State Shared Revenue funding formula.
- **Growth and development**
Support urban growth boundary amendment policies and legislation that provide for a more efficient urban growth management system.
- **Vertical Housing Program**
Support the extension of the Vertical Housing Program which encourages mixed-use commercial/residential developments in areas designated by communities.

Oregon’s 2014 Short Legislative Session: February 3 – March 9

Oregon’s bicameral legislature consists of the House of Representatives, which has 60 members elected for two-year terms, and the Senate, whose 30 members are elected to serve for four-year terms.

Oregonians choose their legislators by voting every even-numbered year. The primary election is held on the third Tuesday in May. The general election is held on the first Tuesday (after the first Monday) in November.

Oregon uses a system of single-member districts to elect its legislators. Each of the 90 members represent a designated senatorial or representative district, meaning each Oregonian is represented by a single senator and a single representative. Representative districts have a population of about 63,850; Senate districts contain about 127,700 people. These district lines are redrawn every ten years.



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Tigard City Council



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