

Resolution No. 523

A resolution establishing the City's legislative
positions and objectives for 2025

WHEREAS, the City of Forks has numerous interests that may need to be advanced or protected in the upcoming meeting of the Washington State Legislature;

WHEREAS, the City believes that its elected officials and staff members may need to provide information, as well as state positions of the City on proposed legislation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The City of Forks hereby adopts the following positions. The City:

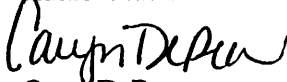
- Supports efforts to provide funding for infrastructure (streets, water and sewer utilities, public buildings, etc.) projects within the City of Forks.
- Supports legislative efforts promoting additional use of wood products in government construction as well as woody biomass for heating and/or power generation that could result in additional infrastructure improvements, new mill related industries, and/or job growth within the region.
- Support efforts that provide incentives, without costs to local governments, to developers for increasing housing stock that could be rented or purchased by members of the community.
- Support legislation that provides oversight and review of the Board of Natural Resources and the Department of Natural Resources in the agency's use of conservation programs, the sustainable harvest level calculations; trust obligations; and, fiscal accountability of its managed assets.
- Supports efforts to increase the telecommunications infrastructure in the Westend and throughout rural Washington.
- Supports legislation and specific budget proposals that would strengthen the City's ability to pursue additional means of economic and community development.
- Supports legislation and specific budget proposals that may provide direct or indirect benefit to the City.
- Requests the legislature to curtail administrative interpretations that are limiting the flexibility empowered by the legislature regarding the use of Hotel-Motel tax revenues.
- Oppose efforts to undermine parental rights over their children.
- Oppose efforts to ban wood stoves as primary or secondary heating sources.
- Oppose all gun laws as unconstitutional and passage of such as a violation of their oath for a public servant.
- Oppose institution of any variety of income tax, including, but not limited to capital gains tax.
- Oppose legislation that forces compliance with sanctuary city laws.
- Opposes those proposals and specific budget recommendations that would result in a threat to the community's, and its members', public safety and well-being to include efforts to release early felony offenders and/or reduce community supervision of felony offenders.
- Opposes those proposals and specific budget proposals that would increase demands on local agencies to provide mental health services without adequate funding from the State.
- Opposes legislation and specific budget proposals that would have a negative economic impact upon our community resulting from reducing any State agency's ability to provide assistance to our citizens and community members.

- Opposes legislation, policies and rules further removing working forest lands “off base” which would have adverse impacts to the well-being of the communities in the Olympic Experimental State Forest as well as the Olympic Peninsula.
 - Opposes legislation that would degrade the DNR’s trust obligations (e.g., duty of undivided loyalty, duty of prudent management, duty of impartiality, etc.) or that could result in reductions in revenues to local junior taxing districts.
 - Opposes legislation and specific budget proposals that would require the City to shoulder additional activities that do not have adequate funding from the State to cover such unfunded, or underfunded, mandates.
2. The Mayor shall coordinate the legislative efforts for the City. The Mayor may designate a staff member or members to act on the City’s behalf. When applicable, said staff member(s) shall be responsible for compliance with the Public Disclosure Commission’s reporting requirements and all legislative contacts by other staff members will be coordinated with that individual. A copy of any written position shall be kept and be made available to the public at its request. All staff may continue their participation in legislative committees associated with AWC, RMSA, WSAMA, etc. that they currently participate in provided that a copy is kept for reporting purposes.
4. If additional issues arise that are not covered by this resolution, the Mayor or their designee upon approval of the Mayor may respond to those requests or issues if time does not permit the issue to be brought before the Council for consideration. Where time is not of the essence, the Council will be consulted.
5. The City, its elected officials and staff shall ensure compliance with the rules and regulations of the Public Disclosure Commission with regard to legislative activities. The Mayor and/or his designee shall be responsible for complying with these requirements.

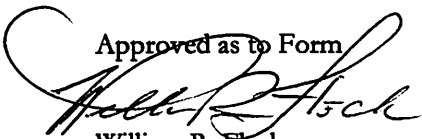
Passed by the City Council on this 10th of February 2025.


Tim Fletcher, Mayor

Authenticated and Attested to:


Caryn DePew
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved as to Form


William R. Fleck
Attorney/Planner

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- Opposes legislation and specific budget proposals that would have a negative economic impact upon our community resulting from reducing any State agency's ability to provide assistance to our citizens and community members.
- Opposes legislation, policies and rules further removing working forest lands "off base" which would have adverse impacts to the well-being of the communities in the Olympic Experimental State Forest as well as the Olympic Peninsula.
- Opposes legislation that would degrade the DNR's trust obligations (e.g., duty of undivided loyalty, duty of prudent management, duty of impartiality, etc.) or that could result in reductions in revenues to local junior taxing districts.

- Opposes legislation and specific budget proposals that would require the City to shoulder additional activities that do not have adequate funding from the State to cover such unfunded, or underfunded, mandates.
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