



City Council Issue Summary

Subject: Approve the 2026 City of Bend State Legislative Priorities

Staff Member, Department: Sarah Hutson and Cate Schneider, City Manager's Office

Meeting Date: 1/21/2026

Action(s) Required:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☐ Consent Agenda | ☐ Ordinance First Reading | ☐ Public Hearing |
| ☐ Information/Direction | ☐ Ordinance Second Reading | ☐ Resolution |
| ☒ Motion | | |

Recommended Motion

I move to approve the 2026 City of Bend State Legislative Priorities.

Issue/Council Decision & Discussion Points

- Staff are seeking Council approval of the 2026 City of Bend State Legislative Priorities, which establish the City Council's policy and funding priorities to guide the City's advocacy efforts during the 2026 legislative session.
- Priorities address local government revenue, housing production and houselessness solutions, sustainable transportation and infrastructure funding, water policy and infrastructure, public safety and wildfire, economic development, and environment and climate and align with 2025-2027 Council Goals.
- Top priorities identified for the 2026 legislative session include:
 - Passing local lodging tax flexibility to ensure the City can address tourism-related impacts to infrastructure, public safety, and related services; and
 - Protecting Oregon Housing and Community Services (OCHS) allocations which provide critical funding for City-supported shelter operations.



Background

The legislative session begins on February 2, 2026, and can last a maximum of 35 days. Short sessions occur on even-numbered years and typically focus on budget adjustments, technical fixes and adjustments to past legislation, and immediate policy priorities. The 2026 City legislative priorities identify the top state-level issues that may be considered by the Legislature and are intended to guide the City's advocacy, recognizing the limited scope and timeframe of the short session.

Budget and Financial Impacts

n/a.

Community Outreach Process and Potential Impacts

n/a.

Department Director Review: Cate Schneider

Financial Review: Samantha Nelson

Legal Review: Elizabeth Oshel

Attachments

- 2026 City of Bend State Legislative Priorities



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