



State of the City

September 16, 2015

Don Jensen, Mayor
Dave Campbell, City Manager



2015 Council Initiatives

- 💧 Provide sustainable water quality and environmental infrastructure**
- 💧 Continue effective financial management**
- 💧 Strengthen economic conditions and create new opportunities**
- 💧 Improve transportation system**
- 💧 Enhance public safety and emergency response**
- 💧 Preserve and enhance neighborhoods**
- 💧 Address quality of place issues**



Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

- 💧 Mint Farm RWTP began service – January 31, 2013
- 💧 Water quality complaints began – March 2013
 - July 2013 – Hired Confluence Engineering to identify causes and potential solutions
 - August 2014 – Hired CH2M/JLA Public Involvement to perform water supply review
 - 💧 Customer telephone survey
 - 💧 CAC Formation



Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

- 💧 October 2014: A statistically valid telephone survey was conducted among residential and business customers to determine the extent and intensity of community concern regarding the water.
- 💧 December 2014: The City Council and BHWSD Commissioners formed a Customer Advisory Committee (CAC) to learn about the water supply system, consider options to improve the community's water, and make a water supply recommendation to the Council and District board.
- 💧 The CAC had eight meetings and an open house. They were well attended and served as a forum for gathering up-to-date project information and providing feedback on the water supply alternatives meeting considered.



Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

WATER QUALITY RATING

TEN-POINT SCALE WHERE "10" IS "VERY GOOD"
TELEPHONE SURVEY – OCTOBER 2014

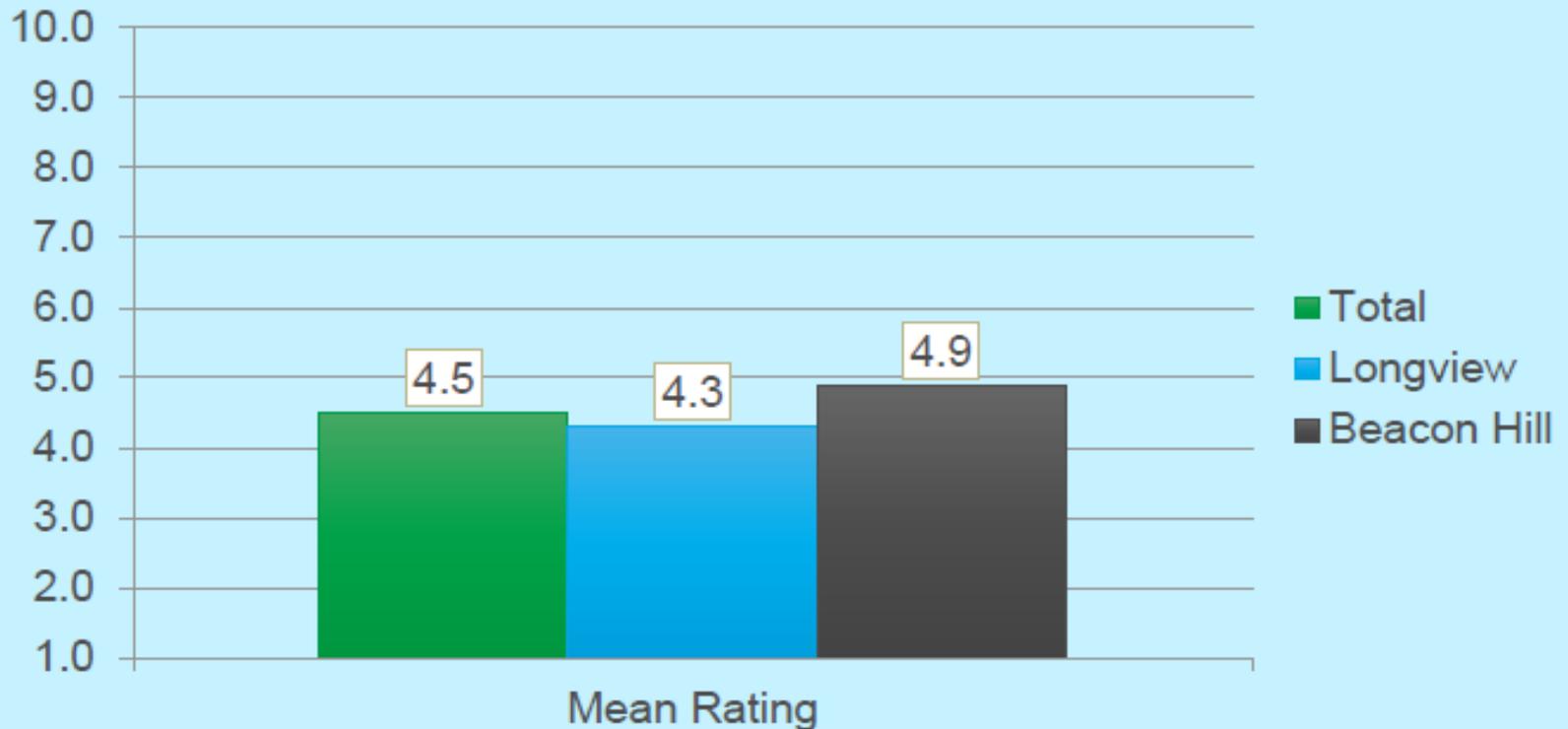
WATER QUALITY CUSTOMER SURVEY

City of Longview
Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District

Preliminary Survey Results
October 21, 2014

 Riley Research Associates

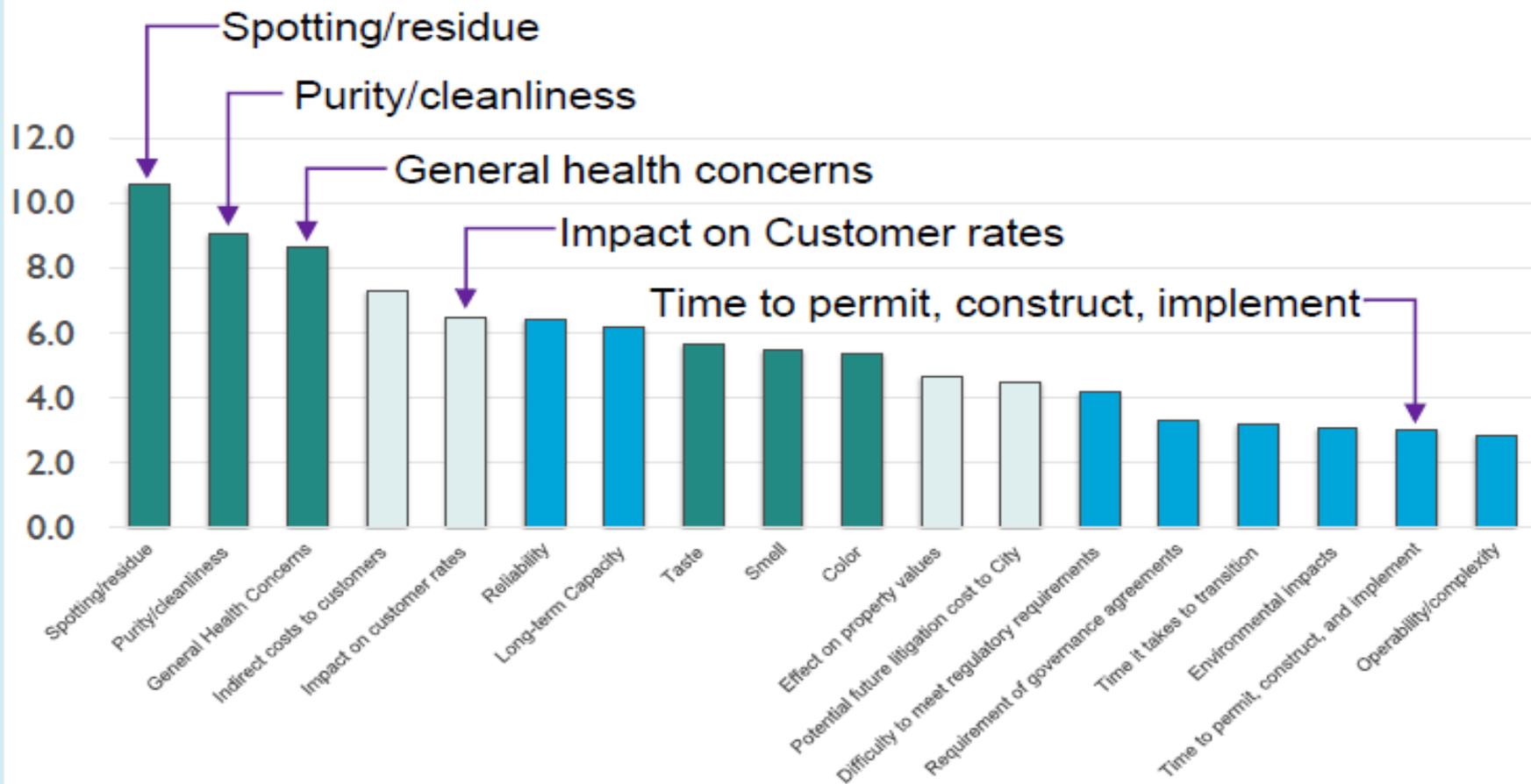
Current Water Quality Rating





Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

Evaluation Criteria were Weighted and Ranked for Importance





Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

CAC Recommendation

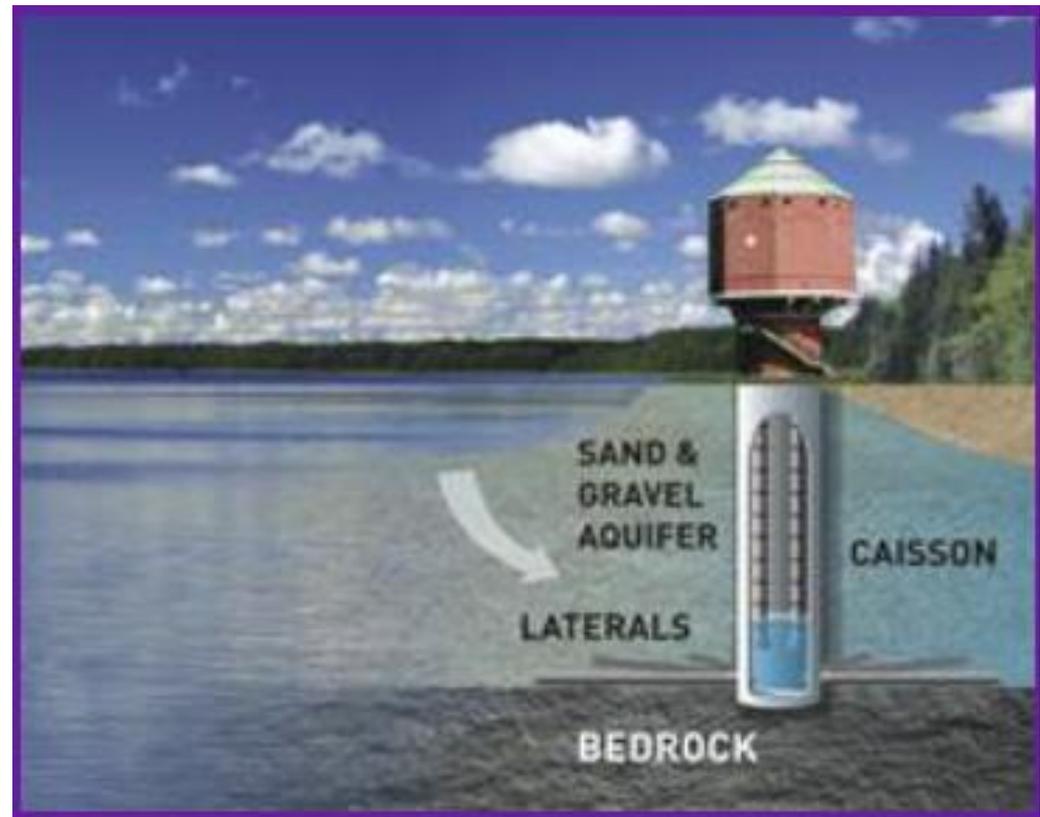
- 💧 Based on results of the open house and surveys, the CAC recommended that the Council proceed with developing a Ranney Collector on the Cowlitz River.

- 💧 Concerns about surface water source on the Cowlitz River:
 - 💧 Complex permitting
 - 💧 Regulatory requirements
 - 💧 Sediment



Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

- On August 27th, Council approved to perform a \$300,000 feasibility study on Ranney wells in the Cowlitz River.
- Council also approved an \$87,000 study on interim Mint Farm fixes that could address taste, odor and color complaints.





Provide sustainable water quality & environmental infrastructure

Stormwater





Continue effective financial management

- 2015-2016 Budget provides for the following Public Safety enhancements-
 - (1) Community Service Officer
 - (2) Street Crimes Unit Officers
 - (1) Public Safety IT Analyst
- 2015-2016 Budget provides for the following Public Works Department enhancements-
 - Restoration of Street Maintenance Materials (\$45,000)



Continue effective financial management

2015 General Fund Overview (in \$000's)

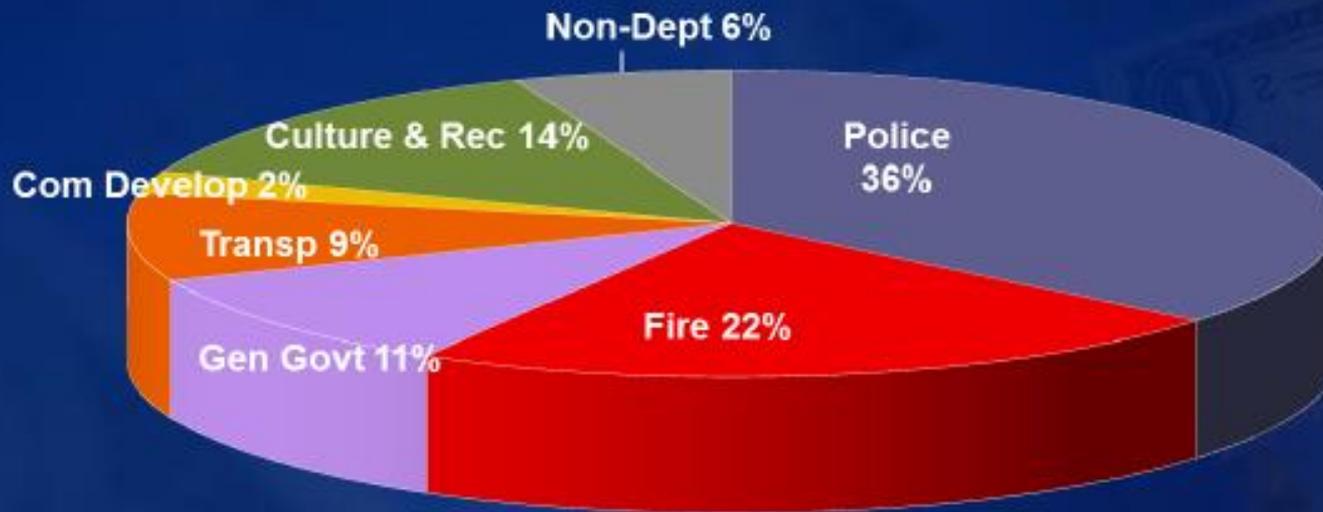
	2015 Budget	2015 Projected
Beg Fund Balance	\$7,800	\$8,637
Revenue	<u>\$33,043</u>	<u>\$32,780</u>
Total Revenue	\$33,043	\$32,780
<hr/>		
Expenditures	<u>\$34,298</u>	<u>\$33,408</u>
Total Expenditures	\$34,298	\$33,408
Beg Cash Required	<u>(\$1,255)</u>	<u>(\$628)</u>
End Fund Balance	\$6,545	\$8,009
% of End Fund Bal	19.1%	24.0%





Continue effective financial management

2015 General Fund Expenditure Budget

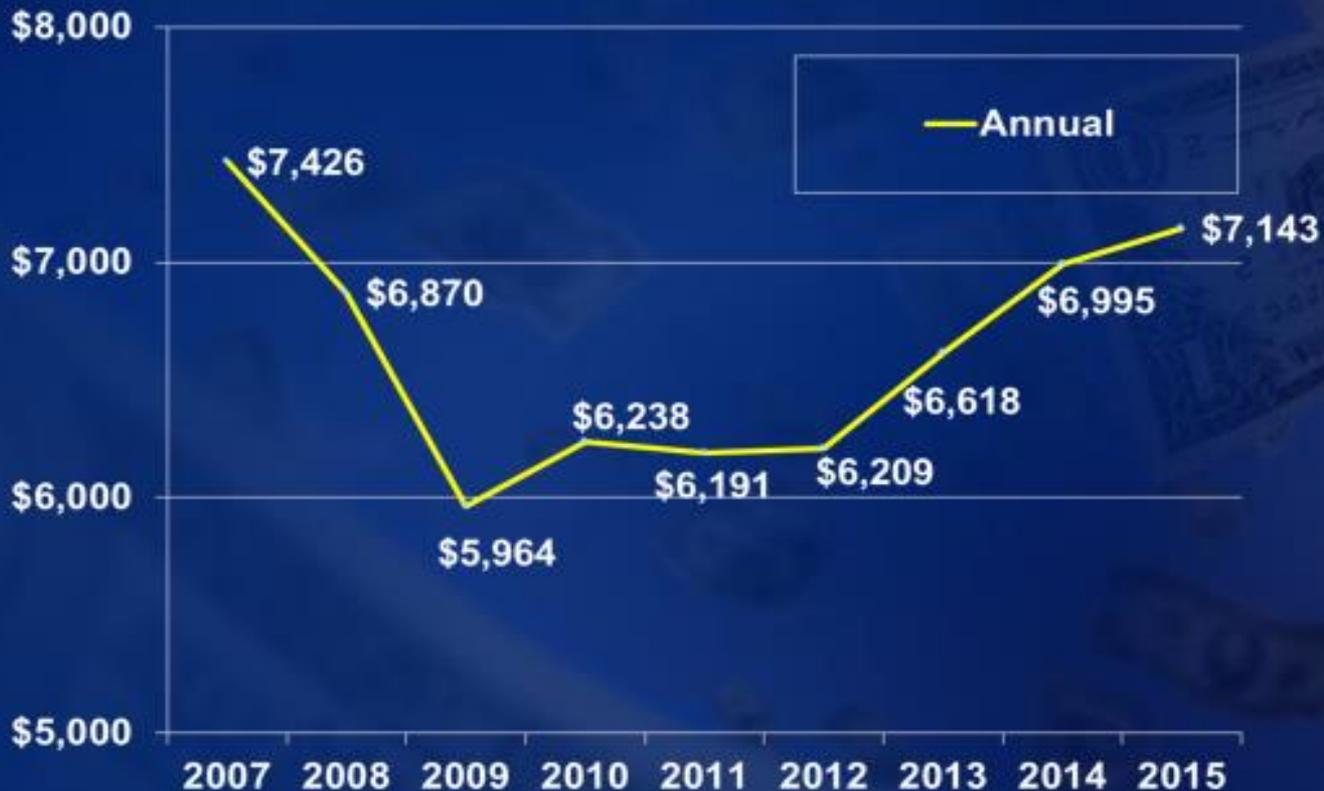


2015 General Fund Expenditures = \$34,297,950



Continue effective financial management

Sales Tax Revenue History (\$000's)



Following a 6.6% increase in 2013, and 5.7% increase in 2014, 2015 sales tax revenues are currently projected to increase 2.1%.

Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities



Opportunities
straight ahead

Downtown corridor improvements continue:

- Phase I (Commerce Ave. from Washington Way to Broadway) complete.
- Phase II (Broadway to Hudson) began September 8th. Construction is sequenced to minimize impacts. Construction is expected to be complete in early November.
- Funding approved for Phase III (Hudson to Hemlock).
- The improvements provide for new crosswalks, sidewalks, ADA ramps, street lights, irrigation and stormwater raingardens.

Opportunities
straight ahead

Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities



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Opportunities
straight ahead

- The Longview Outdoor Gallery (LOG) recently installed four new art pieces for its third exhibit. (Exhibits are two-years.)
- The following are the new sculptures installed on Commerce.

Opportunities
straight ahead

Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities



Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities

The LOG also presented the City with two more pieces for its permanent collection of art. LOG has now gifted seven pieces of art to the City!



Hound Dog



Earth Spirit



Opportunities
straight ahead

Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities

Development



Bell Lumber & Pole Company

- Purchased 31 acres in the Mint Farm for expansion.
- 106 year old privately held family company.
- Primary business is providing and servicing the utility market with treated, wooden utility poles.
- Will break ground later this year, opening a pole peeling yard early in 2016.
- Expected to hire between six and 15 employees between startup and being fully operational; consists of yard and office workers.
- Will contract with support operations (logging companies, trucking companies, rail freight, vendors, etc.).

Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities



Opportunities
straight ahead

Development

From January to September 2015, **604** building permits have been issued with a valuation of **\$11,102,150**.

- New single family: 12 permits; valuation of \$2,691,703
- New commercial: 8 permits; valuation of \$1,939,602

Opportunities
straight ahead

Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities

Wayfinding

- Project Longview is embarking on a new project to install wayfinding signs.
- Working to partner with Kelso.



Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities



Opportunities
straight ahead

Economic Development

- Currently recruiting for a new Economic Development Coordinator.
- This position will market and promote development of the Mint Farm Industrial Park, development within the City's commercial and industrial zoning districts, serve as a resource for new and expanding businesses to promote commercial and industrial development opportunities, serve as liaison with the business community to include the Chamber, Small Business Development Center, the Port, CEDC, downtown, workforce development council, SWEDC, etc.



Opportunities
straight ahead

Strengthen economic conditions & create new opportunities

Industrial Way/Oregon Way Intersection Project

- Successful in getting appropriation of \$85 million for the Industrial Way/Oregon Way Intersection project.
- Improvements to the intersection will allow vehicles and trains to move more safely and with less delay, improving response to emergencies and enhancing economic activity.





Improve transportation systems

Washington Way Bridge

- Concrete slab placement began mid-August.
- Work on the deck will wrap up early in September.
- Bridge is scheduled to open November 3, 2015.
 - Public celebration in the works. Have a great celebration idea? Submit them to Jennifer Wills at jennifer.wills@ci.longview.wa.us!



Improve transportation systems





Improve transportation systems





Improve transportation systems



08/10/2015



Improve transportation systems



09/08/2015



Improve transportation systems





Improve transportation systems

Vanpool

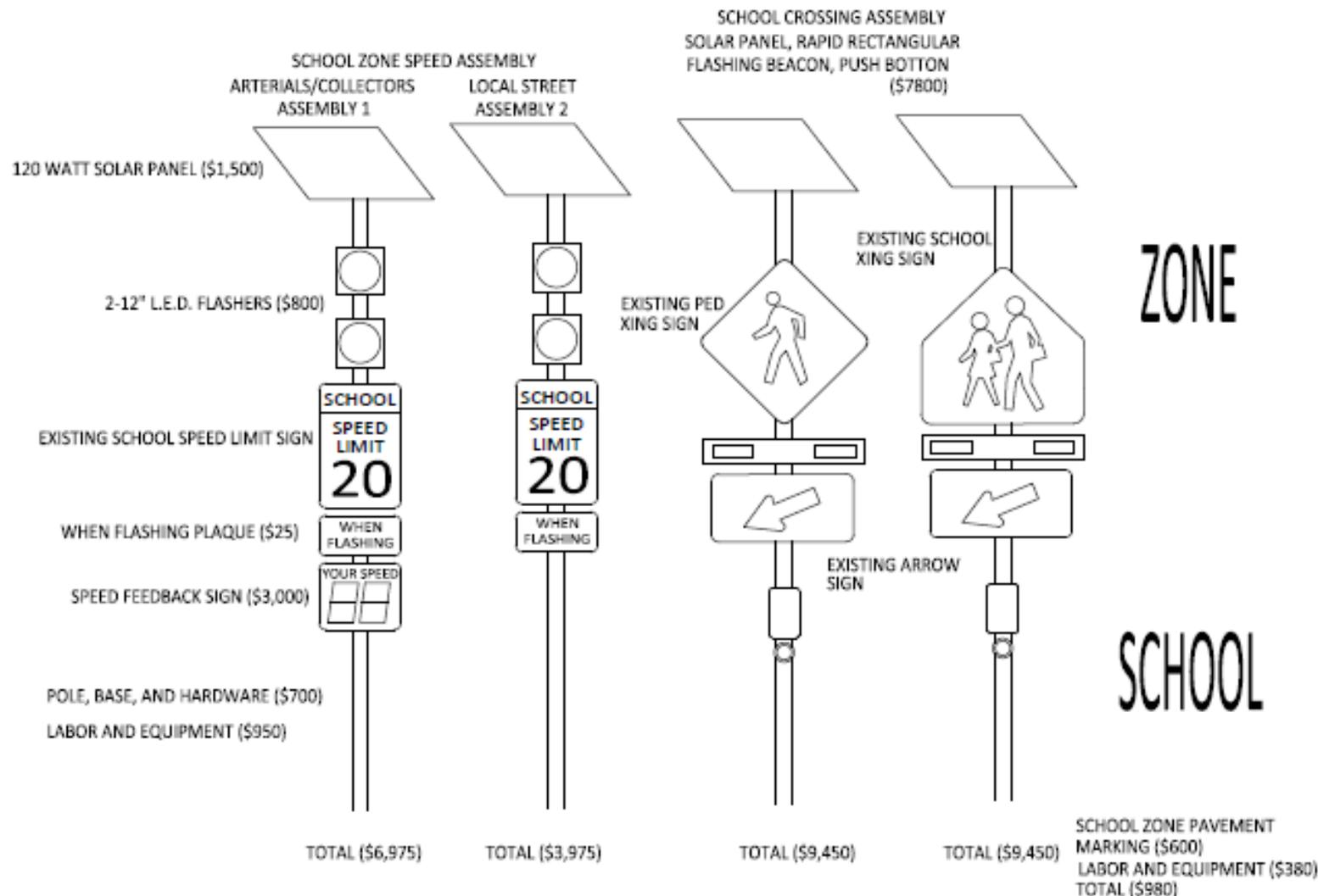
- Earlier this year, RCT purchased five vehicles for use in a Vanpool Pilot Program. The WSDOT funded 95% of the purchase price.
- The RCT Vanpool Program is available to commuters who:
 - Have a pool of 5-7 passengers
 - Have a round trip of at least 20 miles
- The vanpool fares cover the cost of the vehicle, gasoline, and insurance.



Improve transportation systems

School Zone Safety

- \$300,000 budgeted to install flashers and speed feedback signs throughout the Longview school district.
 - Foundation work begins this week.
 - First group of flashers and feedback signs to arrive 9/22.
 - Photo enforced school zones will be first to have flashers and speed feedback signs installed:
 - Mark Morris High School on 15th
 - St. Helens Elementary on Beech / Wa Way
 - Olympic Elementary on 30th Ave
 - Columbia Valley Gardens Elementary on 30th Ave
 - Mint Valley Elementary on 38th Ave
 - Kessler Elementary



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Police

- Three police officer positions and a public safety IT analyst position were approved in the budget. These positions will focus on street crimes (such as drug sales) and community outreach and enable the department to take a more proactive approach to fighting crime, using technology to increase effectiveness.
- The department was recently awarded a \$6,000 grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance under the Fiscal Year 2015 Bulletproof Vest Partnership to purchase 15 National Institute of Justice compliant armored vests.
- January – August 2015, the Street Crimes Unit has made 90 felony drug arrests.



Enhance public safety and emergency response

Notable changes from 2013 – 2014

Weapons offenses -53%

Auto theft -19%

DUI arrests +35%

Calls for service +28%

Robberies -43%

Domestic violence -15%

Shoplifting +29%

Drug offenses +13%

Vandalism -22%

Enhance public safety and emergency response

Fire

- Sent paramedic unit to help at the Alder Lake fire.
- Enhanced EMS transport services with Fire Department resources. Paramedic positions reduce our reliance on third party services.
- 95% of the time, the Fire Department responded to full alarm structure fires in nine minutes or less!
- In August, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation awarded the LFD with 10 sets of turnout gear worth more than \$19,000!





Preserve and enhance neighborhoods

Highlands Revitalization

- Continue to seek funding to facilitate implementation of the Highlands Revitalization Plan.
- Partnered with the Highlands Neighborhood Association to complete new Highlands Community Center.
- New lighting installed for basketball courts at Archie Anderson Park -- \$85,000 CDBG funding.





Address quality of place issues

- 31st consecutive year – recognized as a Tree City USA
- Fifth successful Squirrel Fest
 - Sixth squirrel bridge unveiled. Designed by RD Olson Mfg, Inc., it is a replica of the Lewis & Clark Bridge.





Address quality of place issues

Longview Public Library

- The Library held its second “Literacy Night with the Black Bears” on August 2nd.
- Was awarded a grant by the Washington State Library and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to buy equipment necessary to take technology training courses to seniors and adults needing to increase technology skills.
 - Classes for seniors at Somerset completed; classes for adults begin at the Library begin October 7th.
- Began reciprocal borrowing pilot project with Kelso Library.
- In April, access to the Library was increased by allowing Longview property owners and business owners who are not residents of Longview to get library cards.



Address quality of place issues

The Shay Locomotive restoration project continues with completion of the fencing around the pavilion. Sidewalks and interpretive plaques yet to be completed.

Want to make a permanent mark on Longview? Buy a memorial bench at the pavilion! Contact City Planner Adam Trimble for more information.

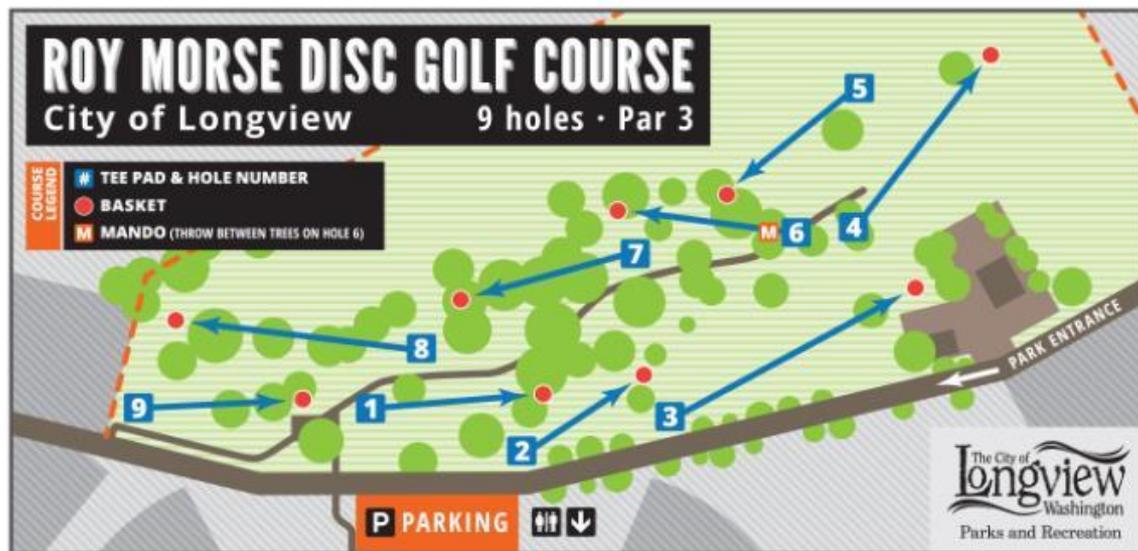




Address quality of place issues

Recreation

- Increased promotion and marketing of Mint Valley Golf Course.
 - New cart storage coming.
- Movies in the Park series kicked off this summer.
- Longview's first disc golf course is up and ready to use at Roy Morse Park! Disc golf league is held on Tuesday nights.





Address quality of place issues

Councilman Tom Hutchinson devoted 25 years to youth soccer in our community. In May, the Longview City Council voted to designate the soccer complex at Seventh Avenue Park to be named **Tom Hutchinson Soccer Complex**.





Thank you!

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