

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

OUR 2023-2024 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

1. **Refine the City Economic Development Strategy with the City's community partners.**
 - a. Foster a unified vision and strategy with the Port of Centralia, Lewis County, Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce and Lewis County Economic Alliance.
 - b. Coordinate efforts with the Centralia School District, Lewis County Public Facilities District, and Centralia-Chehalis Sports Commission to promote existing events and develop new venues to encourage Sports Tourism in Centralia.
 - c. Explore creative financing options that may include the use of City allocated ARPA funds.
2. **Communicate progress on street maintenance and preservation.**
 - a. Develop annual project lists for approval by Council with a review of projects completed the prior year.
 - b. Communicate progress on street projects and ensure community members that available funds are used wisely.
 - c. Continue to explore new ways to provide interactive communications with citizens concerning street conditions and projects.
 - d. Identify and pursue funding for additional pedestrian safety projects.
3. **Promote a climate of diversity, equity and inclusion within Centralia.**
 - a. Form a DEI Advisory Group to the City Council.
 - b. Establish an ongoing DEI training and awareness program for City staff in conjunction with area partners.
4. **Establish a date-informed Housing Action Plan and communicate progress.**
 - a. Complete the housing study commissioned through BERK.
 - b. Compare the Centralia housing mix and inventory to other areas of Lewis County and comparable cities.
 - c. Engage community members and stakeholders to assist in establishing a ten-year vision that encourages priority housing development.
 - d. Adopt a Housing Action Plan.
 - e. Develop a dedicated web-page for the Centralia Housing Sub-Committee to communicate information and progress on committee work on an on-going basis.
5. **Identify Strategic annexation/infrastructure investment opportunities.**
 - a. Encourage new commercial and residential development within the Centralia Urban Growth Area.
 - b. Meet with regional partners to discuss development opportunities and agree on annexation strategies.
 - c. Update the Interlocal agreement with Lewis County to reflect current positions.
 - d. Identify opportunities for ARPA funds to be invested and approve projects to be completed by 2025.
 - e. Develop an interactive page for developers on the City web-site with checklists and the ability to communicate directly with City staff.
6. **Work with area partners to address challenges related to homelessness.**
 - a. Work with Lewis County to establish a permanent night-by-night shelter within the Twin-Cities.
 - b. Initiate communication among social service providers and law enforcement to ensure a coordinated and efficient approach to providing services for homeless individuals.
 - c. Work with local low-income housing providers to encourage an appropriate inventory of housing stock for low-income families and individuals.
 - d. Continuously review and update codes in order to enable law enforcement to manage unacceptable activities related to homelessness.
7. **Establish a Parks and Recreation facility and program strategy.**
 - a. Update the Parks element of the Comprehensive Plan.
 - b. Work with community partners to develop and implement a plan for providing recreation programs/services at City owned facilities and within the greater community.
 - c. Develop a list of prioritized projects/programs within the Parks and Recreation Department and identify sources of funding and timelines for implementation.
 - d. Make a final determination on the feasibility of renovating and operating the Veteran's Memorial Pool.
 - e. Make a final determination on the feasibility of turfing all or a portion of the sports fields in Borst Park.
 - f. Seek funding to develop connected trails and pathways as adopted in the Centralia Comprehensive Plan.
8. **Explore the merits and process for changing the Council structure to reflect 7 At-large positions.**