

# 1997 12 08 Joint Mtg/Legislators

## JOINT LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL AND STATE LEGISLATORS MINUTES

Monday, December 8, 1997

City of Lakewood

City Council Chambers

10510 Gravelly Lake Drive SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

### CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE

Councilmembers Present: 6 - Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Ann Kirk Davis; Colleen Henry; JosÃ© Palmas; Doug Richardson and Sherri Thomas.

Councilmember Excused: 1 - Mayor Bill Harrison.

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Washington State 2nd District Legislators Present: 1 - Senator Marilyn Rasmussen and Representative Roger Bush.

Washington State 28th District Legislators Present: 3 - Matt Adams representing Senator Shirley Winsley; Representatives Mike Carrell and Gigi Talcott.

Washington State 29th District Legislators Present: 1 - Representative Brian Sullivan.

Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlf; Deputy City Manager Andrew Neiditz; City Attorney Dan Heid; Finance and Systems Director Galen Kidd; Community Development Director David Bugher; Engineering Manager Bill Larkin; Police Chief Rob Masko; Human Resources Administrator Debi Young and General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush.

### INTRODUCTIONS

Deputy Mayor Thomas welcomed legislators from the Washington 2nd, 28th and 29th Legislative Districts.

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### DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE ITEMS:

*Lakewood Issues*

*Transportation funding (gas tax and transportation improvements)*

*Sales tax equalization*

*Hotel/Motel tax*

*Sales tax on personal dance services*

*Redistribution of State Shared Revenues - military impacts*

*Opening or consuming liquor in public places - penalty*

*Licenses and plates required - penalties*

*MVET - (Forman proposal)*

*State rights-of-way clean-up funding*

*Double taxation - Pierce County jail*

*Redevelopment incentives for businesses to occupy vacant*

*building spaces*

*Construction of Thun Field*

*Regional Transit Authority transportation-related issues*

*Group Homes - State and Federal requirements*

Transportation funding (gas tax and transportation improvements)

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Regional Transit Authority transportation-related issues

Group Homes - State and Federal requirements

Councilmember Davis reviewed the Regional Transit Authority's position on transportation-related issues and provided a briefing on the status of the Lakewood Commuter Rail Station.

City Manager Rohlfs reported on the need for funds for basic street maintenance. He noted that the City's only option for funding street maintenance is through grants. He requested legislative assistance for providing opportunities for cities to maintain their streets.

Mr. Bill Kittrell, Chair of the Transportation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, reported on the need to improve the mobility of communities along the I-5 corridor, such as improving HOV lanes, the SR-512 interchange, the Cross Base Highway, connecting SR-167 to I-5 and improvements to the Narrows Bridge. He stressed the need for implementing a gas tax for funding these types of improvements.

Representative Carrell requested that he be provided with data on the financial impacts for the improvements being proposed.

Representative Talcott indicated that some of the State's \$800 million surplus could be used for transportation improvements.

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Senator Rasmussen arrived at 7:35 p.m.

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City Manager Rohlfs indicated that 22 percent of the City's revenue comes from sales tax equalization and that source of revenue is being reduced five percent every year. He requested that the legislators find a way to keep the program funded for cities. He indicated the MVET funds cities receive have been relatively flat.

Senator Rasmussen indicated that MVET funds are not being eliminated.

City Attorney Heid requested that language on the proposed sales tax on personal dance services legislation include language to include services such as couch dances.

City Manager Rohlfs requested legislative support for State Shared Revenue Redistribution so cities can use the funds to improve areas as a result of military base impacts.

City Attorney Heid requested that the proposed legislative language for fines for criminal and infraction offenses for opening or consuming liquor in public places be changed to misdemeanor and a civil infraction with a maximum penalty of \$250 respectively.

City Attorney Heid requested support for the proposed legislative language for licenses and plates required penalties.

City Manager Rohlfs expressed support for State funding for I-5 rights-of-way clean ups such as trimming and hauling brush along I-5. Legislators pointed out that there is disparity between various sections of I-5.

City Manager Rohlfs expressed concern about the double taxation that Lakewood residents are paying for Pierce County jail facilities through the one-tenth sales tax and then paying for jail services through Lakewood's contract for Pierce County jail services.

City Manager Rohlfs requested support for a program to provide cities the ability to strengthen redevelopment for businesses to occupy vacant building spaces.

Councilmember Thomas requested support for the funding of the construction of Thun Field airport facilities.

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City Manager Rohlfs expressed a concern to make the legislators aware of group homes that have been established in Lakewood that have changed the character of the neighborhood.

Representative Bush suggested that staff contact Vancouver to get information about a similar situation that they were faced with.

***Other Issues***

***Physical control and implied consent statutes - Vehicle***

***(breath and alcohol testing)***

***Arrests of violators for misdemeanors committed outside***

*the presence of the arresting officer - officers investigating*

*accidents*

*Veterans' preference in public hiring*

*Civil Service secretary - examiner appointment process*

*(fire and police services)*

*Expungement of criminal cases*

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**City Attorney Heid distributed position papers on the other legislative issues list above.**

**OTHER**

**None.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.**

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**BILL HARRISON, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**ALICE M. BUSH, CMC**

**CITY CLERK**