



MINUTES
RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
Tuesday, October 22, 2024
Richland City Hall ~ Council Chambers
625 Swift Boulevard

City Council Workshop - 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Richardson called the Council workshop to order at 6:03 p.m.

Attendance: Mayor Richardson	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Kent	Absent
Councilmember Jones	Absent
Councilmember Lukson	Absent
Councilmember Maier	Present
Councilmember VanDyke	Present
Councilmember Whitten	Present

Also present were City Manager Amundson, Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Assistant City Manager Florence, City Attorney Kintzley, Fire Chief Huntington, Development Services Director Jensen, Energy Services Director Whitney, Parks & Public Facilities Director Waite, Interim Chief of Police Meidl, and City Clerk Rogers.

- Visiting Officials:
- Senator Perry Dozier
 - Senator Matt Boehnke
 - April Connors, Washington State Representative, 8th District
 - Mark Klicker, Washington State Representative, 16th District
 - Skyler Rude, Washington State Representative, 16th District

Also in attendance was Richland’s contracted lobbyist, David Arbaugh.

Agenda Items

1. 2025 Legislative Priorities: Discussion with State and Federal Elected Officials

Each official introduced themselves and provided an overview of their respective legislative assignments, and at Mayor Richardson’s request, provided insight to the legislative assignment selection. The City’s contracted lobbyist, Dave Arbaugh also gave an overview of his contracted services.

City Council engaged in a dialogue with elected officials, covering various topics in preparation for the 2025 legislative session and beyond. Key topics included collaboration on regional priorities, proposed revisions to the Landlord Tenant Law, affordable housing, Urban Growth Boundaries, and Houseshare Heroes.

The Capital Budget funding was a focus of the discussion, particularly the need for new public safety communication system infrastructure upgrades in Benton and Franklin Counties. The current analog radio system infrastructure is failing and requires replacement. Senator Dozier indicated that this is a state-level issue and pledged assistance in seeking a resolution.

The discussion also touched on joint transportation and housing projects between neighboring cities and on clean energy and the role of nuclear power in the region's energy strategy. Elected officials requested Richland City Council continue collaborating with neighboring cities on common priorities and submit letters of support when needed to advance regional efforts.

Adjournment

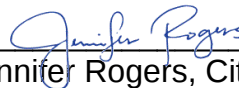
Mayor Richardson adjourned the workshop at 7:11 p.m.

APPROVED:



Theresa Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: November 5, 2024

DATE PUBLISHED: November 6, 2024