

How to Lobby for Policies

Oregon's 241 cities are strongest when we address the Legislature with a single unified voice. This guide is designed to provide you with information on how to lobby for policies by creating and telling your city's story and ultimately increase positive outcomes for cities.

1. Understanding LOC Priorities

Throughout the spring of even-numbered years, the LOC's seven [policy committees](#) meet to identify policy recommendations for the upcoming two-year legislative cycle. Policy recommendations are identified and advanced to a ballot, where each LOC member city is asked to identify its top five legislative priorities. The final legislative priorities are posted on the [LOC website](#), with greater detail on the issues and the LOC's position.

Incorporating your city's priorities into the broader LOC legislative agenda helps create a cohesive message for the Legislature. Cities are stronger when speaking with a unified voice.

2. Creating Your City's Priorities

Tell your legislators what you want from them. Developing a legislative agenda is a simple and effective way to get your legislators' attention. It's best to adopt your legislative agenda in the fall. However, you can also do it at the beginning of the legislative session.

- Keep it short and simple – one page only.
- Add credibility by having your city council adopt it before session.
- Include capital needs along with policy priorities.
- Incorporate [LOC's Legislative Priorities](#) into your agenda.
- Make it public. Post it on your city's website, put it in your newsletters.
- Work with your local media for coverage.

Once your city legislative agenda is created, [share it with us!](#) Sample city legislative agendas are shared on the [Lobbying 101 Toolkit](#) webpage.