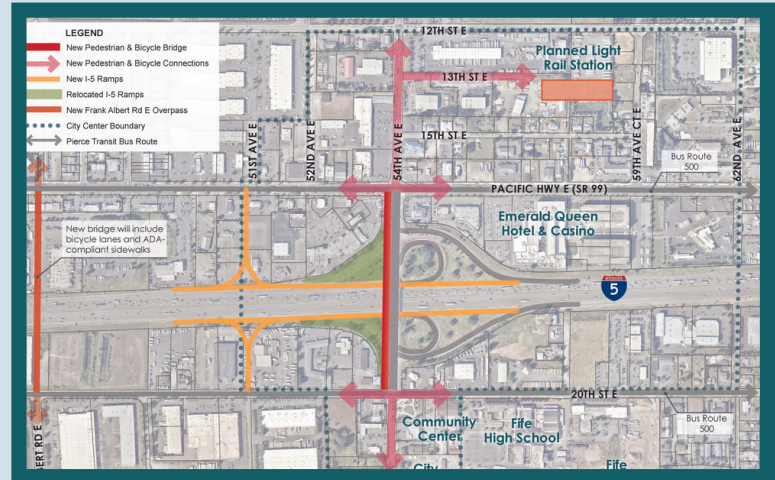


TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Given ongoing safety challenges in the community, the economic development role that Fife plays as a “front doorstep” to the Port of Tacoma, the need to enhance connectivity, and ongoing challenges with homeless encampments with transportation rights-of-way, Fife seeks the following:

I-5/54TH AVENUE OVERCROSSING

Fife seeks to fund additional investments to upgrade this car-centric, 1960s-era interchange that divides the community and makes it very difficult for vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists to effectively access a future Sound Transit Light Rail Station. The city asks that at a minimum, funds from a \$20 million “Fife to Tacoma Light Rail Access” in the 2022 Move Ahead Washington package be appropriated in a way that allows them to be devoted to pedestrian/bicycle-related improvements of the interchange.



TIMING OF INVESTMENTS FOR "ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION" PROJECTS LISTED IN THE MOVE AHEAD WASHINGTON PACKAGE

Fife will actively work to ensure early funding and phasing for key projects like the Tacoma-Fife-Puyallup trail along the SR 167 alignment and a \$1.4 million Interurban Trail project for which the city has proposed an alternative use.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT



REVISIONS TO STATUTES GOVERNING HOW LAW ENFORCEMENT ADDRESSES DRUG OFFENSES UNDER THE STATE V. BLAKE DECISION

Fife will be an active player in seeking long-term solutions for these statutes, including provisions due to expire on July 1, 2023. Fife believes there must be some level of accountability for offenders and also sees significant “therapeutic court” funding and a statewide data-base and tracking system as keys to success.

INCENTIVES FOR RECRUITING AND HIRING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Fife appreciates actions by the 2022 Legislature to fund LEOFF 2 enhancements for existing law enforcement officers, but seeks legislative assistance to help cities – especially jurisdictions of fewer than 20,000 residents – to hire new officers. Ideas such as tuition forgiveness for new officers, direct funding to enable incentive payments, and monies to help fund background investigations should all be on the table.

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST

\$1.5 MILLION FOR URGENT UPGRADES TO FIFE AQUATIC CENTER AND FIFE COMMUNITY CENTER

The City of Fife will partner with 27th District lawmakers on a 2023-25 Capital Budget, “Local and Community Projects” request for \$1.5 million to assist with urgent structural and safety upgrades to the Fife Aquatic Center (\$1 million) and the Fife Community Center (\$500,000). Both facilities are heavily used by a regional audience that goes well beyond city limits – with 92 percent of aquatic center users carrying non-Fife addresses. We established an itemized list of building structure, roofing, mechanical, electrical, HVAC, and ADA upgrades, among others. This \$1.5 million overall request is a key priority for the city.



FUTURE IDEAS

JOB-SKILLS AND TRAINING FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Through state budget dollars distributed via the Department of Commerce and awarded to Pierce County, Fife expects to receive \$2.025 million to help fund three additional years of a job-skills and training program serving individuals experiencing homelessness. The city has used American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies to help fund year one of this successful program, which is enabling many people to transition out of homelessness and into living-wage jobs. However, Fife may well need to look to legislative assistance in the 2025-27 biennial budget for additional funds to help maintain this vital program.

ENCAMPMENT CHALLENGES WITHIN RIGHTS-OF-WAY

The city is appreciative of the \$2 million allocation in the 2022 Supplemental Transportation Budget to assist our small community with addressing encampments and helping with housing and service options for those experiencing homelessness. It is clear additional funding will be needed, and the Pierce County-distributed funds will enable the city to keep these efforts going in collaboration with the county, the Washington State Department of Transportation and others. Fife may ask the Legislature to allocate an additional \$2 million toward these efforts in either the 2024 supplemental or 2025-27 biennial budgets.