



## 2017 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

*how do we support economic development?*

### SUPPORT RECREATION COMPLEX PHASE 1

The recreation complex is vital to the West Plains. As the City prepares to invest \$13 million in a state of art recreation center, it is important that we surround the new facility with multi-use fields for soccer, softball and other field related sports for youth. These recreation improvements will continue to help fuel the economic development currently being seen in Airway Heights and will enhance the City’s ability to attract new businesses and diversify the regional economy with aerospace manufacturing jobs.

#### IMPACTS

##### **TOURISM, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The West Plains is experiencing economic growth, but there is a lack of recreation fields to support the needs of potential employees and families. This project will provide multipurpose field space for soccer, flag football, softball, baseball, and basketball.

*“I support building the fields around the recreation center. The availability of field space on the West Plains will support regional tournaments which will help grow restaurants, hotels, and motels.”*

*-Mayor Kevin Richey*

#### DID YOU KNOW?

The Airway Heights spring soccer season had 542 participants between ages 5 to 12. This figure does not include the missed opportunities to host regional and state tournaments. As business development in and around the community continues to increase, we are outgrowing the available field space.

#### PARTNERS

- West Plains Chamber of Commerce
- Spokane Sports Commission
- Greater Spokane Inc.
- Spokane County Commissioners
- Washington East Soccer Club
- Spokane Youth Sports

#### SOLUTION

Fund Airway Heights Recreation Complex for the remaining \$300,000, which will allow construction to start June 2017;

Mayor Kevin Richey, (509) 789-0180, [krichey@cawh.org](mailto:krichey@cawh.org)  
 Albert Tripp, City Manager, (509)434-4885, [atripp@cawh.org](mailto:atripp@cawh.org)

## **SUCCESS MOVING FORWARD**

*Thank you!*

**Recreation Complex** - thank you for \$200,000 to help construct phase 1 development of multi-use fields for soccer, softball, and other field related sports for youth and adults in the West Plains. We are wrapping up the capital raising campaign and preparing for construction to start June 2017.

**Cannabis Revenue Sharing**- in the past year, Airway Heights has welcomed several new businesses within this industry. The City has permitted more than ten manufactures and three retail establishments. Thank you for the revenue sharing package that enables the City to help provide public safety services to these businesses.

## **MISSING BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

*Something to remember...*

**WSDOT** is currently garnishing gas tax funds from the City for plowing State Route 2 through Airway Heights. We do not have a specific ask, but we are working on filing an injunction to stop the removal of local gas tax revenue to pay for a State responsibility.

**Business Development** – in the last two year, Airway Heights has experienced a modest clip of new business growth and employee growth. We welcomed Exotic Metals a major aerospace supplier. We also welcomed Brown & Strauss and Seaport Steel's expansion of a 60,000 sq. ft. facility. Concurrently, the City has permitted a variety of new retail uses along SR-2. While all have been a sign of increasing economic growth, it is also a significant use of water resources for the West Plains. As a result, the City will revisit with the Department of Corrections in the future about converting its potable water usage for irrigation to reclaimed water.