

High Priority Items for the 2015 State Legislature



Transportation:

- 1. I-90 Barker Road to Harvard Road + Greenacres** – \$89 million for design and reconstruction of three lanes of I-90 from Barker Road to Harvard Road including reconstruction of the Barker and Harvard Road interchanges.
- 2. Bridging the Valley** – We support continuing the project to remove at-grade railroad crossings due to increased rail traffic in the Valley, with particular emphasis on the Barker Road project as the most immediate priority. Pines Road (SR 27) crossing near Trent is a principal north-south arterial and state highway. Sullivan Road crossing near Trent is a north-south principal arterial in the City of Spokane Valley. Park Road crossing near Trent is a two lane north-south principal arterial in Spokane Valley. All of these crossings can have up to 50 trains per day and are a public safety hazard and hamper efficient traffic flow.

Education:

- 1. Levy Equalization** – We support levy equalization as necessary to fund education in our West Valley, Central Valley, East Valley and Freeman school districts and as a way to maintain quality education throughout the state. The potential of any new proposal needs to be evaluated in terms of a negative impact on existing funding to schools.
- 2. State Construction Match** – We support continued funding for the state construction match program as vital to our local school districts and for the creation of jobs in our community.

Higher Education:

- 1. Graduate Medical Education Program at Riverpoint Campus** – We support the change of state law to allow multiple state medical schools; UW's request of \$8 million for expanding the WWAMI program; WSU's request of \$2.5 million for medical school accreditation and start-up costs.
- 2. Keep College Tuition Affordable** – We support holding the line on tuition costs at area colleges and universities so that more students can complete two- and four-year degrees.
- 3. Science I Building** – We support EWU's capital funding request to replace the current science building with a new facility with needed lab space and technology to address the increasing demand for science at EWU.

Community Projects (Capital Funding)

- 1. Appleway Trail** – We advocate funding (\$2.5 million) to support the City of Spokane Valley's plan to complete this pedestrian thoroughfare that will eventually connect University Road to the city's eastern border.
- 2. Phase III Spokane Valley Tech** – We support the request for \$1.1 million to maintain the state match and build Phase III of this school.