



UDDA 2019 STATE AND LOCAL POLICY AGENDA

Approved by UDDA Board December 4, 2018

Please refer to the *UDDA Advocacy and Policy Support Process* document for background information on how the UDDA develops and approves its annual policy agenda.

PRIORITY ISSUES – timely, highly relevant to the UDDA thematic goal, objectives and core planning principles, impact site(s) within the UDPDA boundaries, and critical to the success of the UD.

CONDO REFORM

- **Description:** Support condominium reform that limits liability for developers and the expansion of condominium warranties to increase the total housing stock and affordable ownership options in and around the University District.
- **Stakeholders and Partners Engaged:** GSI, DSP, developers, property owners, all higher ed, all social service agencies, low- or fixed-income students, families, seniors.
- **Rationale for supporting:** Support of this issue ties back directly to the Thematic Goal of “shared community wellness and vibrancy” and the objective of creating “a vibrant and equitable community by facilitating job growth and quality, affordable housing options” as well as relating to the UD Core Planning Principle regarding increasing the number and range of housing types and costs.

HIGHER EDUCATION

- **Description:** Support higher education funding including the following items:
 - \$14.4M to complete funding for third- and fourth-year instruction at the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine and expand each new entering class in this biennium from 60 to 80 students.
 - Support partnership and maintenance of the current funding for the University of Washington School of Medicine and Gonzaga University Regional Health Partnership.
 - \$500,000 to fund pre-design of the WSU Health Sciences Spokane Biomedical and Health Sciences Building Phase II project.
 - Provide competitive compensation for faculty and staff at four-year institutions and community colleges.
- **Stakeholders and Partners Engaged:** CCS, EWU, UW, WSU
- **Rationale for supporting:** Support of these issues ties back directly to the Thematic Goal of “developing the infrastructure and programming that enable a globally-recognized hub of education, innovation, research and health care,” and the objective of supporting “coordinated and sustainable higher ed programs that advance our mutual goals,” as well as relating to the UD Core Planning Principle regarding building “nationally-recognized ‘Centers of Excellence’, research hubs and higher ed programs.”

HSSA REAUTHORIZATION

- **Description:** Support reauthorization legislation for the Health Sciences & Services Authority (HSSA), which invests funds to create and support a nationally-competitive, health-sciences research cluster in Spokane.
- **Stakeholders and Partners Engaged:** Spokane’s entire life sciences community, UW/GU Regional Health Partnership, WSU Health Sciences Spokane, EWU, CCS, Whitworth.
- **Rationale for supporting:** Support of this issue ties back directly to the Thematic Goal of “developing the infrastructure and programming that enable a globally-recognized hub of education, innovation, research and healthcare,” and the defining objectives around coordinated marketing to draw investment and that of supporting “coordinated and sustainable higher ed programs that advance our mutual goals,” as well as relating to the UD Core Planning Principle regarding building “nationally-recognized ‘Centers of Excellence’, research hubs and higher ed programs.”

Financial Repercussions or Staffing Demands: UD staff and appropriate committees will support specific legislation, meet with legislators, and educate and connect impacted partners as appropriate. Efforts will substantially fit within the current activities and plans with no additional financial commitment expected. None of the priority issues would negatively impact the UD’s finances or future ability to raise funds; rather, each would create additional economic growth and capacity in various ways.

Accountability plan/tracking outcome: Staff will track and engage on the issue. Updates to the Executive Committee (EC) will be made throughout and after the legislative session. EC and Board input or engagement may be requested if legislation or engagement differ significantly from what is expected or desired.

SUPPORT ISSUES – aligned, but not at the same level of urgency and importance as Priority issues to the UD. Issues may be critical to partners or impact site(s) exclusively outside of the UDPDA.

Higher Ed

- \$7.9M for renovation design of the current Eastern Washington University Science Building.
- \$36.4M to complete construction of the new Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at Washington State University.
- \$35.6M for the replacement of the Fine Arts Building at Spokane Falls Community College and \$3.1M for the design of Spokane Community College’s Apprenticeship Center.
- Investment in new programs and curriculum in high demand fields including civil engineering and computer engineering, as well as guided pathways in our community college system.

Health Care and Research

- **Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse**
 - Increased state support for the region's Behavioral Health Organization, administered by Spokane County, resulting in a balanced state-wide system, including the continuation of funds for the Acute Care Diversion provision.
 - Ensure eligibility and a reasonable rate for partial hospitalizations programs by Medicaid for children, adolescents, and adults.
 - Increase the reimbursement rates for inpatient hospital behavioral health beds through Medicaid.
 - Address the opioid crisis through thoughtful engagement in policy and budget priorities which help address the crisis without unnecessarily restricting providers' ability to provide care for patients.
 - Carry forward additional funding allocated under ESSB 6032, including \$4M in the Spokane region, for the enhancement of community-based behavioral health services.
- **Nurse licensure** - add Washington to the Nurse Licensure Compact authorizing nurses in participating states to practice in all other compact states under multi-state privileges authorized by the nurse's state of residence.
- **Hospital Safety Net Assessment Reauthorization** - support reauthorization of the Hospital Safety Net Assessment under the same or similar parameters of past legislation, and oppose any cuts to existing rates.

STA issues

- \$6.3M in Public Transportation Regional Mobility Funds over two biennia for Spokane Transit Authority to construct high-performance transit improvements along the I-90/Cheney corridor and purchase double-decker buses.
- Maintain state share of Central City Line capital costs in alignment with project implementation schedule, with project delivery in 2021.

WATCH ISSUES – policy issues are of general concern and could impact the UD, its stakeholders, or objectives; immediate action is not required until further information is available as to the issues inevitable or preferred outcome.

- **Downtown building height limits and master planning**
- **STA in-lane stops and Sprague Ave design**