

CITY OF
OAK RIDGE
TENNESSEE



2011
State and
Federal
Legislative
Agenda

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This document describes the 2011 legislative and policy agenda adopted by the elected officials of the City of Oak Ridge. These are key projects, policies, and priorities that the City urges the Tennessee General Assembly and the Tennessee Congressional Delegation to support during their legislative sessions.

KEY STATE ISSUES

1. Edgemoor Road (SR 170) Improvements - (Exclusive of Bridge)

Responsible Agency/Organization:

Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to widen and improve this highway. With the cancellation of the Knoxville beltway project, congestion along this major regional thoroughfare will continue to worsen with additional traffic load. Benefits include: improved safety, significant congestion mitigation, improved access to major employment sectors, enhanced commercial development.

2. Penalties and Fees for DOE Non-Compliance Should Restore Oak Ridge

Responsible Agency/Organization:

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to modify the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) for the Oak Ridge Reservation to require local involvement, and to require that penalties, fees, and mitigation associated with CERCLA activities in the City of Oak Ridge are invested in environmental restoration in the City of Oak Ridge. Current FFA policy penalizes the City of Oak Ridge.

3. Add City of Oak Ridge as Voting Member to the Knoxville Transportation Planning Office (TPO)

Responsible Agency/Organization:

General Assembly and/or TDOT

Benefits/Action Needed:

The City participates in the Rural Planning Organization, despite hosting major employment centers whose commuters congest Oak Ridge roadways. Need is to recognize the central economic role that Oak Ridge plays within the metropolitan area, with its high daytime population, that should make the City eligible to participate as a voting member in the TPO. Action is for the State to add the City of Oak Ridge to the Knoxville TPO as a voting member, making the city eligible for funding through its participation.

4. Oak Ridge General Aviation Airport

Responsible Agency/Organization:

Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Aeronautics Division

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to include the City in comprehensive use planning for development of a general

aviation airport at K-25/East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP).

5. Vacant Blighted Properties

Responsible Agency/Organization:

General Assembly

Benefits/Action Needed:

Local governments in the greater Knoxville region and across the state experience significant problems associated with vacant, blighted properties. Action is to assist local governments in developing solutions that return these properties to beneficial reuse. Such action would benefit Oak Ridge by protecting property values, reducing crime, and improving neighborhoods.

6. Oak Ridge Energy Corridor Project

Responsible Agency/Organization:

Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to assist with comprehensive transportation and redevelopment planning to create a framework for implementation of projects in Oak Ridge.

7. Economic Development Incentives

Responsible Agency/Organization:

General Assembly and Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to maintain the Economic Development Grant, Loan, and Incentive programs that support economic diversification for the City of Oak Ridge, including “Fast

Track” job assistance, training and infrastructure programs.

8. Completion of SR 95/58 improvements

Responsible Agency/Organization:

Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to maintain funding to complete the final phase of this project, projected for May 2012. Completion of this major thoroughfare enhances public safety and supports development in the City of Oak Ridge.

9. Funding for Oak Ridge School System

Responsible Agency/Organization:

General Assembly and Tennessee Department of Education

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to fully fund the Basic Education Program (BEP) with local capacity model that recognizes the Oak Ridge community’s investment in education. Provide funding to implement the Tennessee Diploma Project and Race to the Top requirements. The educational system is a key asset for the City of Oak Ridge.

10. Recognize Local Decision Making Authority

Responsible Agency/Organization:

General Assembly

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to eliminate unfunded mandates, as well as mandates that impose non-discretionary requirements on local governments.

KEY FEDERAL ISSUES

Appropriations/Grants

1. Oak Ridge Energy Corridor Project

Description:

Assistance with comprehensive transportation and redevelopment planning in Oak Ridge to create framework for implementation

Primary Funding Sources:

- Department of Transportation, TIGER II
- Department of Housing and Urban Development, (HUD) Community Challenge Grant Program
- Discretionary funding from DOE's Oak Ridge offices (and HQ offices with presence in Oak Ridge)
- Reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU

2. Community Development

Description:

Housing Initiatives for Highland View Neighborhood

Primary Funding Sources:

- HUD's, Neighborhood Initiatives account
- HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Program Round IV
- HUD's Choice Neighborhoods Program
- Additional resources for Oak Ridge Housing Authority for redevelopment of units under its authority

- Engagement with HUD's College of

Experts to access cutting edge community-wide solutions

- Engagement with White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships for program modeling

3. Anti-Crime Initiative

Description:

Focused anti-crime strategy

Primary Funding Sources:

- Department of Justice, COPS Hiring Program
- Department of Justice, COPS Technology Program
- Department of Justice, Secure Our Schools Program
- Department of Justice, Second Chance Program (Adult and Juvenile)
- Department of Justice, Project Safe Neighborhoods

4. Oak Ridge General Aviation Airport

Description:

Comprehensive use planning for development of a general aviation airport at K-25/ETTP

Primary Funding Sources:

- Federal Aviation Administration, Airport Improvement Program

5. Public Safety Training

Description:

Investments in Information Technology Infrastructure to facilitate multi-site training of Police, Fire, and EMS

Primary Funding Sources:

- FEMA's Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant Program
- FEMA's Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program

6. Region-wide Security

Description:

Enhance regional security planning and implementation to protect the DOE's Oak Ridge Complex. Address vulnerabilities presented by City's role in protecting infrastructure and facilities.

Primary Funding Sources:

- Investments in securing City facilities, with priority on Municipal Building
- Structured commitment to collaborate between DOE's security apparatus and protocols and City's Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments

7. Climate Action Plan

Description:

Resources to implement recommendations and targets for Oak Ridge's Climate Action Plan

Primary Funding Sources:

- U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant Competitive Program

8. Melton Lake Redevelopment Initiative

Description:

Capital infrastructure needs to transform venue into major tourist and recreational area

Primary Funding Sources:

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, EDI program
- TVA ; Army Corps of Engineers

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ISSUES

1. Rebuild Water/Wastewater Infrastructure to Support City Compliance with EPA Administrative Order

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

Environmental Management (EM) and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)

Benefits/Action Needed:

The City of Oak Ridge is under an EPA Administrative Order to correct violations of the Clean Water Act for inflow and infiltration. Because DOE is the City's largest customer, the action is for DOE to budget and set aside funding to repair its systems on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

2. Uranium Processing Facility (UPF)

Program Office Within DOE Complex:NNSA

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to complete design work and fund construction. Benefits include: significant risk reduction to workforce and community; enhances Y-12 efficiencies, reduces long-term costs. Supports Y-12 as the Center of Excellence for Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU).

3. Command Control Center (CCC)

Program Office Within DOE Complex: NNSA Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to construct this emergency operations facility as an alternate financed building at Y-12. Benefits include: significant risk reduction to the City and to the Y-12 workforce; construction performed faster and more cost effectively.

4. Finish Cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

Environmental Management (EM) lead office, with support from Office of Science and NNSA

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to increase and stabilize funding to accelerate and finish the cleanup job in Oak Ridge. Cleanup solutions are needed which minimize risk to the City of Oak Ridge, and avoid long-term institutional controls that stigmatize the community.

Benefits include: risk reduction to nearby population, reduction in life cycle costs, enhanced safety for workers, retention of environmental professionals. The cleanup program also supports regional economic diversification, facilitates Y-12 and ORNL modernization and reduces stigma associated with DOE's environmental legacy.

5. Small Modular Reactor (SMR)

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

Science and Nuclear Energy

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to support the development of NRC-licensed SMRs in partnership with TVA and the City of Oak Ridge. Benefits include: demonstration of new generation of nuclear

reactors; reduction in environmental emissions; potential power source for the City of Oak Ridge.

6. Manhattan Project National Park

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

DOE in conjunction with National Park Service (NPS)

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to support the “Three Site, One Park” Concept to establish a National Park Service Designation for the Manhattan Project at Oak Ridge, Hanford and Los Alamos. Congressional action will be required once the NPS presents its report to Congress.

7. Conversion/Extension of Contract with Oak Ridge Fire Department

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

Environmental Management

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to sustain or enhance current funding levels in order to maintain services currently provided. The contract allows the City to provide more efficient service delivery to the federal government, business community and citizens. The contract also facilitates long-term planning and resource allocation.

8. Penalties and Fees for Non-Compliance Should Restore Oak Ridge

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

Environmental Management in conjunction with EPA and State of Tennessee

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to modify the Federal Facility

Agreement (FFA) for the Oak Ridge Reservation to require local involvement, and to require that penalties, fees, and mitigation associated with CERCLA activities in the City of Oak Ridge are invested in environmental restoration in the City of Oak Ridge. Current FFA policy penalizes the City of Oak Ridge.

9. Coalition of Oak Ridge Retired Employees (CORRE)

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

DOE and NNSA

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to assist contractor employees retired before 2001, to have pensions adjusted to help restore 75% of the lost purchasing power of the original pension. Periodic adjustments would enhance the quality of life of Oak Ridge citizens and support the regional economy.

10. Contract Renewals and Rebids

Program Office Within DOE Complex:

DOE and NNSA

Benefits/Action Needed:

Action is to incentivize contractors to invest in the Oak Ridge community. “Living where you work” reduces congestion, expands the local tax base to support municipal services, improves quality of life, and enhances economic diversification in Oak Ridge.

Resolution to adopt the
City of Oak Ridge
2011 State and Federal
Legislative Agenda
approved by
Oak Ridge City Council
January 10, 2011

Number 1-3-11

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to develop a state and federal legislative agenda as an instrument to inform state and federal officials of key projects, policies, and priorities in the city of Oak Ridge, and to help secure funding for agreed upon priorities of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends the approval of the *City of Oak Ridge 2011 State and Federal Agenda* to inform state and federal officials of key projects, policies, and priorities in the city of Oak Ridge, and to help secure funding for agreed upon priorities of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City understands that a local financial match may be required for some projects;
and

WHEREAS, while the *City of Oak Ridge 2011 State and Federal Agenda* intended to be comprehensive, issues may arise during the course of the year that require further action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE,
TENNESSEE:

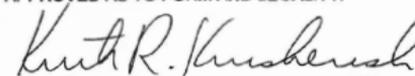
That the recommendation of the City Manager is approved, and the attached *City of Oak Ridge 2011 State and Federal Agenda* is hereby adopted to inform state and federal officials of key projects, policies, and priorities in the city of Oak Ridge, and to help secure funding for agreed upon priorities of the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor or City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the appropriate legal instruments to accomplish the same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the *City of Oak Ridge 2011 State and Federal Agenda* be transmitted to members of the Tennessee General Assembly and the Tennessee Congressional Delegation as the official 2011 state and federal agenda for the City of Oak Ridge.

This the 10th day of January 2011.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



City Attorney



Mayor



City Clerk

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