

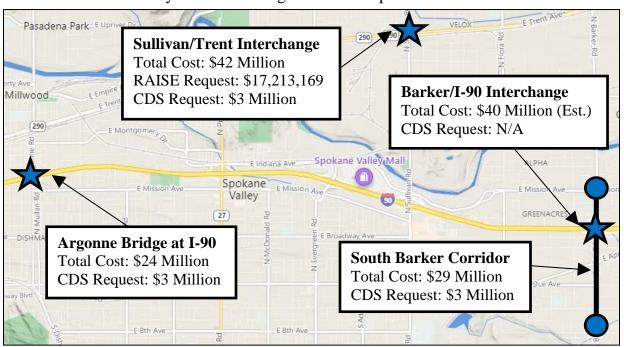
# 2023 Federal Legislative Agenda

10210 E Sprague Avenue ♦ Spokane Valley WA 99206 Phone: (509) 720-5000 ♦ Fax: (509) 720-5075 ♦ www.spokanevalley.org

The City of Spokane Valley's legislative priorities include four capital infrastructure projects and three policy statements.

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

These projects offer practical solutions to improve capacity, mobility, and safety on the National Highway System while preserving and hardening I-90. The City is committed to sustaining a national system with thoughtful local improvements.



#### **POLICY STATEMENTS**

#### Reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration (EDA)

The City of Spokane Valley supports the reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration (EDA), with funding to carry out its mission of "promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy." The City encourages Congress to continue to direct EDA investments at regional and local projects, rather than funding distributed directly to state governments. This flow of funding remains aligned with the EDA's original 1965 authorization and mission. With opportunities for EDA to modernize programs by way of this reauthorization, the City urges Congress to remain traditional in the aspect of direct regional and local investments.

## Continued Funding at the Authorized Levels for IIJA/BIL Programs

The City supports continued funding at the authorized levels for programs included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (IIJA/BIL). Given the unprecedented growth and maintenance needs of existing infrastructure within the region, the City encourages Congress to continue to support the levels of funding provided under the IIJA. The City fully supports robust Congress oversight of the U.S. Department of Transportation projects and programs funded under the IIJA, and offers assistance in providing information supporting the level of funding that has been made available. The City encourages Members of Congress to visit the region and see first-hand the extraordinary growth driving the infrastructure improvements and the City's wise stewardship of these funds.

## **Implement Reforms to the Infrastructure Permitting Process**

The City encourages federal agencies to move swiftly to implement the reforms to the infrastructure permitting process as required under FAST 41 and revised under the IIJA. As the City continues to experience unprecedented growth, streamlining permitting could help address critical safety and infrastructure needs, stimulate economic activity, and provide more employment opportunities. The City encourages Congress, in its oversight role, to encourage the Administration to move expeditiously on implementing these reforms and to ensure that such reforms have practical applications on the implementation of the IIJA.