



LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE JULY 13, 2021

AGENDA

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: City Hall Conference Room

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ATTENDANCE
- 3) DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
- 4) ADJOURNMENT



Memorandum

TO: Legislative Agenda Ad-hoc Committee
Chairperson Stacey Streetman
Councilperson Travis Holleman
Councilperson Ashley Evans
Councilperson Wanda Smith
Councilperson Jason Knight

FROM: Joe Pitts

DATE: July 12, 2021

RE: Ideas for the Legislative Agenda

I wanted to offer two items as your committee convenes to discuss the legislative agenda for the City of Clarksville.

1. Private utilities. Over the past two and one half years the city has had at least three road construction projects (Edmondson Ferry Road/41A Bypass, Rossview Road, International Blvd/Dunlop Lane) delayed due to private utility companies' slow response to move their equipment and technology. These delays cost time (months) and money during the construction process but they also inhibit contractors from bidding or perhaps bidding high on projects when these utility companies are involved. Despite our involvement with the companies at the very beginning of the planning process, when the contracts are signed, we often have to wait for months before we can begin, or even suspend construction waiting on lines and/or to be moved.

I would request the state legislature impose a time limit on these companies to address the need for them to respond to local government projects where utilities need to be moved. The utilities would have **no more than 30 days** from the issuing of the “notice to proceed” to begin to move their equipment or infrastructure (poles, lines, above ground cabinets) from the site. Failure to begin construction would result in liquidated damages payable to the city.

I recognize the difficulty of imposing such a time limit, but the extreme, unnecessary delays and the gross inefficiencies by these utilities cause local governments to lose valuable time to improve transportation, cost small businesses opportunities to secure contracts, and create unnecessary hardship on residents.

2. Nashville State Community College. NSCC has grown in student enrollment over the years and the institution installed portable classrooms to handle the overflow. The administration of the school has a new classroom building on the list of projects to be funded by the state of Tennessee, as funding is available. The building did not make the cut for the current fiscal year (FY22) and they are asking for the city’s support of the project as the state considers projects for FY23. I am requesting we lend our support to their request of the state of Tennessee to fund the new building on the Clarksville campus of Nashville State Community College in FY23.

Thank you.