

# State Legislative Session

## 2024 Session Wrap Up

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# Direction

- No direction sought
- For information only



# Agenda

- Budget outcomes
- Key policy issues
- Initiatives update
- Next steps in 2024



## 2024 State Legislative Agenda

Now in its 70th year, Bellevue champions the programs, projects, and opportunities that position our city to thrive for the next 70 years and beyond. Bellevue plans today for the next evolution of our city. This state legislative agenda advances the City Council's vision, values, and priorities to get us there. Bellevue is the city where you want to be.

### HIGHEST PRIORITY ISSUES

**Affordable Housing and Land Use:** Washington State faces an affordable housing crisis. Like most communities throughout the state, Bellevue needs the state's partnership to address this crisis. Bellevue recognizes that land use policies impact housing capacity and is actively implementing legislation enacted in 2023 as part of its 2024 comprehensive plan update.

Additionally, Bellevue supports legislative action that provides incentives to cities to increase flexibility for local land use conditions. Cities need time to incorporate new land use legislation into comprehensive plans.

Bellevue supports new and flexible funding options for local jurisdictions that address the need for affordable housing, such as a local option Real Estate Excise Tax (REET). Such options should be progressively structured to best meet the needs of low- and moderate-income households.

**Infrastructure for a Growing Community:** Bellevue is experiencing exponential growth, welcoming 30,000 new jobs from 2020 to 2025. The economic vitality of Bellevue and the Eastside of Lake Washington provides an excellent return on investment for the state economy.

**Electric Fire Engine and Charging Infrastructure:** Together, Bellevue and Redmond seek \$800,000 to invest in the first electric fire engines in the state.



# 2023-25 Supplemental Budgets

- Bellevue achieved success on all top priorities:
  - **\$800K** toward the purchase of **electric fire engines** and charging infrastructure for Bellevue and Redmond Fire Departments, funded by Climate Commitment Act funds
  - **\$6.9M** shifted into the 2023-25 budget for the **Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail Bellevue “Gap,”** allowing us to access an award of competitive federal funds from PSRC
  - Funds for I-405/SR 167 – **Allocates earlier funds for a "practical solutions" approach to approved corridor projects,** including **\$2 million** for the I-405/Renton to Bellevue Widening and Express Toll Lanes project in the 2025-2027 biennium



# Priority Issues: Affordable Housing & Land Use

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## Bills That *Passed*:

- HB 1998, Co-living Housing
  - Requires cities to allow co-living, defined as housing where sleeping units within one home are rented independently, are lockable, and provide living and sleeping space
- SB 6015, Residential Parking
  - Prohibits certain cities from requiring off-street parking as a condition of permitting a residential project if compliance with tree retention would make the project infeasible
- HB 2321, Regarding Middle Housing
  - Clarifies HB 1110 law so that middle housing densities only apply around bus rapid transit stops once construction of those stops has begun, rather than during planning
- SB 6175, Commercial to Residential Incentives
  - Establishes incentives for projects that convert commercial/non-residential buildings to residential purposes; conversions to residential qualify for existing MFTE program

# Priority Issues: Affordable Housing & Land Use

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## Bills That *Did Not* Pass:

- HB 2160, Community and Transit-oriented Development
  - Governor-request legislation that would have mandated that cities allow transit-oriented development densities around light rail and bus rapid transit stops
- HB 1245, Lot Splitting
  - Would have required cities planning under the Growth Management Act to allow the splitting of a single residential lot into two residential lots
- HB 2474, Permanent and Supportive Housing
  - Would have required Commerce to facilitate the resolution of disputes between a city and a developer of permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, or shelter
- HB 2270, Creating a Washington State Department of Housing
  - Would have studied the transition of state housing programs into a new state agency



# Other Notable Bills, Policy Issues

- HB 2384, Automated Traffic Safety Cameras – *did pass*
  - Allows cities & counties expanded authority to use automated traffic safety cameras
- HB 2049, Extended Producer Responsibility – *did not pass*
  - Would have required certain producers to participate in and fund operations of a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) to collect and manage covered products
- SB 5812, Electric Vehicle Fires – *did pass*
  - Directs Washington State Patrol to work with Ecology to study electric vehicle fires
- HB 2368, Assisting Refugees and Immigrants – *did pass*
  - Requires Department of Social and Health Services to coordinate state, federal, and local efforts to support the economic & social integration of immigrants and refugees
- HB 2311, First Responder Wellness – *did pass*
  - Requires the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) to create a task force on first responder, coroners, and medical examiners wellness



# State Initiatives

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Legislature approved three of the six initiatives to the Legislature:

- I-2111 (prohibiting income tax)
- I-2081 (parental rights)
- I-2113 (vehicular pursuits)

The remaining three initiatives will appear on the November ballot:

- I-2117 (repealing the Climate Commitment Act)
- I-2109 (repealing the capital gains tax)
- I-2124 (opt out of Washington's long-term care retirement program)





# Next Steps in 2024 Interim

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- Understanding Impacts of New Laws on City Work, Constituents
- Identify New or Different Funding Opportunities
- Collaborate with Colleagues, Stakeholders on Partnerships
- Thank Lawmakers, Show Them Our Progress
- Look Ahead to the Long Session in 2025
- Develop and Adopt a 2025 State Legislative Agenda in Fall 2024



# Direction

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For information only

