

2025 State Legislative Session Update

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Information Only





Agenda

1. Review Bellevue's State Legislative Agenda
 - Key Priorities
2. 2025 Legislative Session Budget Deliberations
 - Evaluating Revenue Proposals
3. Timeline



2025 Legislative Session

- First year of the two-year biennium, 105-day session
- Develop 2025-27 budgets
 - Operating
 - Transportation
 - Capital
- Over 2,000 bills
- House of Origin cutoff



City of Bellevue 2025 State Legislative Agenda

2025
CITY OF BELLEVUE
WASHINGTON

City of Bellevue 2025
State Legislative Agenda

Bellevue welcomes the world. Our diversity is our strength.
We embrace the future while respecting our past.

Key Legislative Priorities

Bellevue Grand Connection - Downtown Integration Project
Bellevue requests \$900,000 from the Capital Budget for construction.
This project would improve the safety and accessibility of the public gathering space at Bellevue's City Hall Plaza for more than 40,000 people each day. When the Bellevue Grand Connection I-405 Crossing is complete, it will connect light rail to Eastrail and the bicycle and pedestrian network throughout East King County. Capitalizing on the regional investment of Sound Transit's 2 Line, this project is critical in preparing for the arrival of the Grand Connection I-405 Crossing, future bus rapid transit lines, and new public facilities near City Hall.

Bellevue Grand Connection - I-405 Crossing: Downtown to Eastrail
Bellevue requests the Legislature's partnership if a transportation funding package is developed in 2025.
This project will improve access to the second-largest regional jobs center in the Puget Sound by constructing a pedestrian and bicyclist bridge over I-405. The crossing over I-405 will connect more than half a million people via a 120-mile regional trail network, including Eastrail and the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway. It will improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety, create new opportunities for community gathering and recreation, and drive redevelopment in the fast-growing Wilburton neighborhood, spurring transit-oriented housing.

Rendering of the Bellevue Grand Connection crossing I-405

INVESTMENT RETURN

- Over \$3.2 Billion in private investment in Bellevue along light rail
- Over 12 Percent of Washington's exports originate from the Eastside
- Over 1.9 Million overnight visitors came to Bellevue year-to-date, creating \$1.498B in regional economic activity
- Over 12,000 total housing units in development pipeline

Governance & Finance

- Bellevue requests the most efficient procurement requirements
- Cities must not be necessary resource
- The city strongly of business and local tax to local cities
- Bellevue supports that allows cities to
- Bellevue supports revenues and retention of local government greater flexibility
- Bellevue supports efficiency while maintaining open government, Act and the Open cities and disruption
- Support cities in an efficient manner procurement and contracting and procurement
- Innovations like artificial intelligence (AI) will drive transportation and funding that

- Adopted in October 2024
- Serves as our compass
 - Legislative Reception (Dec. 10)
 - Bellevue Day (Feb. 7)
- Primary lens used to assess funding opportunities, as well as develop strategies on priorities
 - Everyday bill analysis
 - Testimony
 - Sign-ins
 - Coalition building
 - Ongoing delegation work



Key Priority: Bellevue Grand Connection

Downtown Integration Project

Capital Budget request to improve safety and accessibility of City Hall Plaza (\$900,000)

- ✓ Submitted budget request

I-405 Crossing: Downtown to Eastrail

Request for partnership of \$50 million

- ✓ Working with delegation, committee leadership and stakeholders
- Potential transportation funding package



Key Priority: Transportation

I-405/SR 167 Corridor

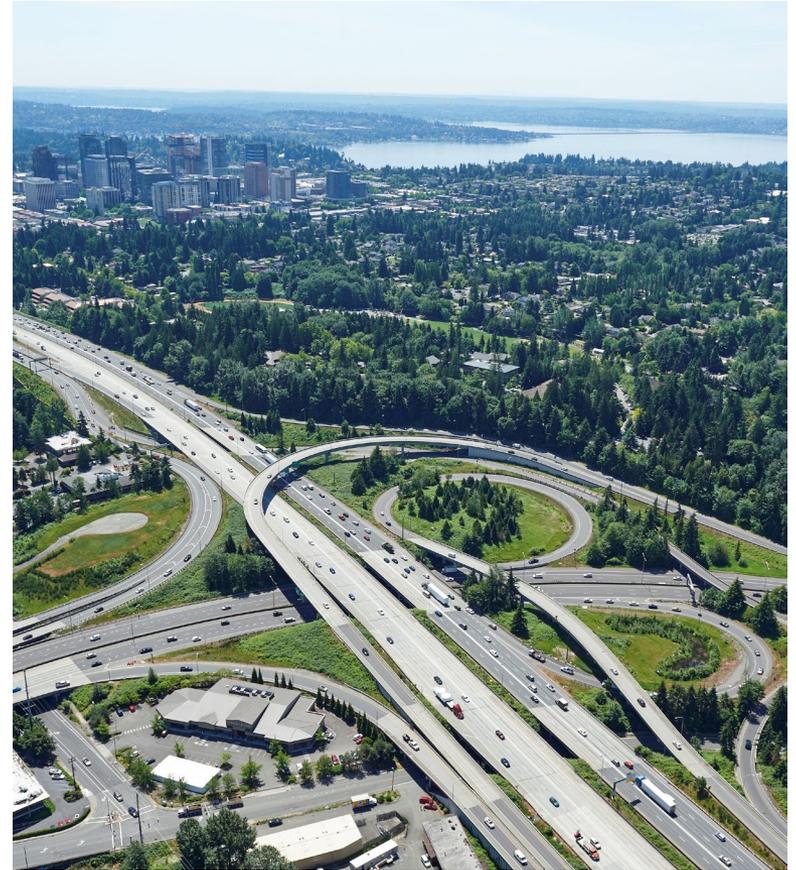
\$94.1 million funding gap for four projects currently in construction

- ✓ Included in Governor's proposed budget
- ✓ Coordinated & submitted coalition letter

SR 520/124th Avenue NE Interchange

Support construction funding for interchange, fish passage, and multimodal realignment

- ✓ Submitted budget request



Key Priority: Digital Permitting

Support eCityGov Alliance budget request

Funding to modernize
MyBuildingPermit.com to remain an
industry-leading, digital permitting
technology solution (\$2.7 million)

- ✓ Coalition funding request
submitted



Welcome to MyBuildingPermit

One-stop portal for development service applications,
inspection scheduling, permit status information,
and tip sheets for government agencies.



Key Priority: Affordable Housing

Implementation support

Provide adequate funding, resources, and time necessary to implement recent state land use and housing legislation

- Transit-oriented development (HB 1491)
- Lot-splitting (HB 1096, SB 5559)
- Parking minimums (SB 5184)
- Housing Accountability Act (SB 5148)

Flexible funding options

- REET Legislation (HB 1791)



2025 Session Budget Deliberations



- Budget shortfall
 - Operating
 - Transportation
- Governor's reductions
- Revenue proposals

Ensure that state-shared revenues currently distributed to local jurisdictions remain at existing levels.

Consider whether the effect of budget proposals devolves State responsibilities to local jurisdictions.



Evaluating Revenue Proposals

Sustainable strategies that:

- Demonstrate fiscal responsibility to support economic prosperity
- Maintain long-term competitiveness, foster innovation, growth
- Attract talent to state and local communities
- Are derived from less volatile or economically-sensitive sources
- Promote fair competition among businesses without disproportionate impact on size or industry
- Ensure jurisdictions and taxpayers can plan for their futures

Timeline

Budget Steps:

- **March 18:** Revenue and economic forecast released
- **March 24:** Budget proposals begin to roll out
- **March 24 – 29** (anticipated): Committee hearings

Key Legislative Dates:

- **April 2:** Opposite chamber policy committee cutoff
- **April 9:** Opposite chamber fiscal committee cutoff
- **April 16:** Opposite chamber cutoff
- **April 27:** On-time adjournment

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