



DATE: February 10, 2026

TO: Mayor Malakoutian and City Councilmembers

FROM: Genesee Adkins, Deputy City Manager, 425-452-7849
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City Manager's Office

SUBJECT: Intergovernmental Affairs Monthly Update as of January 31, 2026

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Included in this packet is a selected group of reports from the City's work with other levels of government on City business. They include updates from the state, federal, and regional levels. Staff are always available to follow up to discuss any matters in greater detail.

LEGISLATIVE STATUS REPORTS

State Legislative Session Update: The 2026 legislative session began January 12 and runs 60 days through March 12, with early activity focused on hearings and work sessions in committees. Governor Bob Ferguson's State of the State outlined priorities, including a ban on masked law enforcement without visible identification and a new millionaire's tax, drawing Republican criticism over affordability concerns. Budget discussions have emphasized limited resources, with hearings held on the Governor's supplemental operating, capital, and transportation budgets. The Legislature is expected to share their budget proposals after the February 16 revenue forecast. More than 1,000 bills have been introduced, spanning housing, transportation, taxation, public safety, and permitting reforms, with key committee deadlines in early February shaping which measures advance this session.

Federal Legislative Update: Congress has enacted most FY 2026 appropriations, with only Homeland Security funding still under negotiation, and is expected to shift to early FY 2027 budget work amid uncertainty about the administration's budget timeline. The enacted bills fund major federal programs and include congressionally directed spending for Bellevue projects, along with increases for transit, housing, and community development. Attention now turns to the February 24 State of the Union and upcoming debates on transportation, water resources, housing, and health care.

STAFF REPORTS / INFORMATION ITEMS

Monthly Council Summary Background Briefings: Included are updated summary background briefings on the King County Regional Committees and those of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC).