

# 2024 State Legislative Agenda

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# Direction

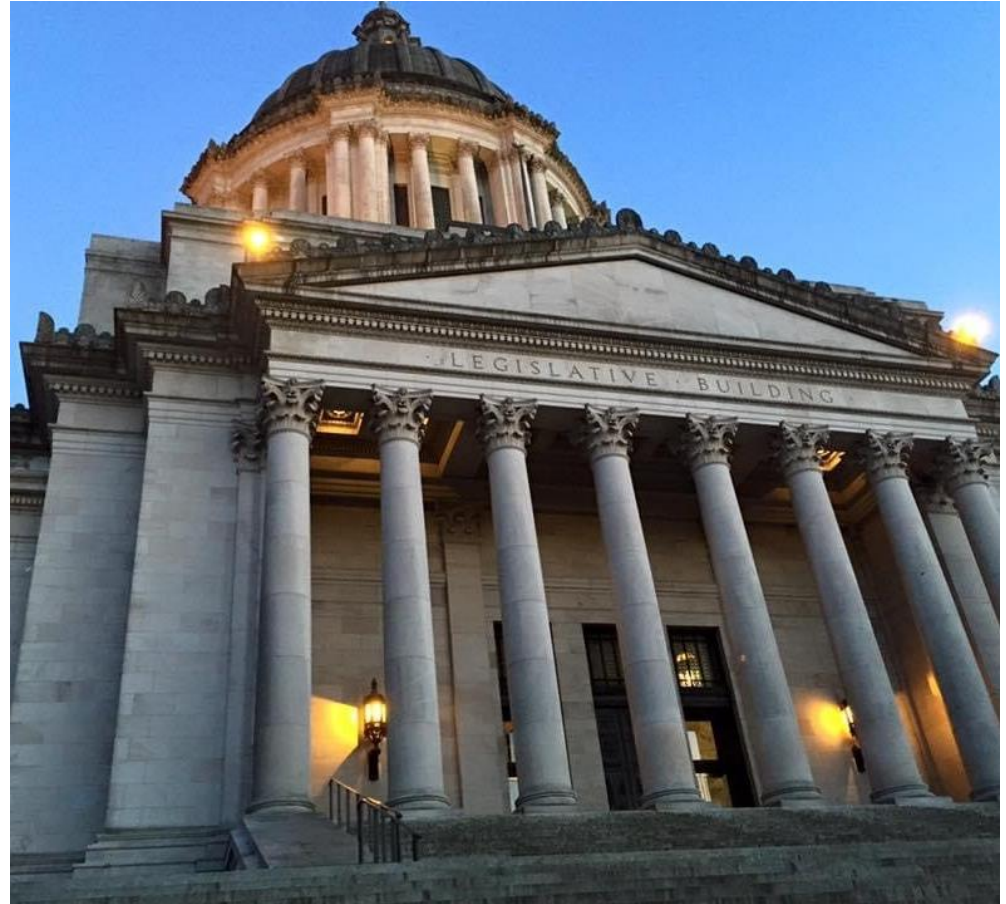
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Staff recommends that the City Council discuss and consider adoption of a State Legislative Agenda in advance of the next legislative session.



# Agenda

- Upcoming Session
- Draft 2024 State Legislative Agenda
  - Priorities
  - Statement of Policy
- AWC Priority Issues



# Upcoming Legislative Session

- Begins January 8, 2024
- 60-day (“short”) session
- Majorities will not change
- Supplemental budgets
  - Operating
  - Capital
  - Transportation
- Next Revenue Review
  - Nov. 26



# Draft State Legislative Agenda – Priorities

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## Affordable Housing and Land Use

- Recognition of our state’s affordable housing crisis
- Desire to shape bills on transit-oriented development to be effective
- New and flexible local funding options

## Infrastructure for a Growing Community

- Electric Fire Engine and Charging Infrastructure
- Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail funding shift
- I-405 Funding Gap

# Draft State Legislative Agenda – Statement of State Policy

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- Homelessness and Human Services
- Climate and the Environment
- Fiscal Sustainability, Financing Tools, and General Government
- Equity and Social Justice
- Public Safety
- Transportation
- Public Works and Infrastructure
- Economic Development and Workforce
- AWC Legislative Priorities
- Implementing Bellevue’s Vision and Priorities



# Association of Washington Cities Legislative Priorities

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- Help recruit and retain police officers for public safety
- Continue investing in infrastructure
- Revise the arbitrary property tax cap
- Provide behavioral health resources
  
- Adopted at the end of September:  
<https://wacities.org/advocacy/City-Legislative-Priorities>
  
- City Action Days: Feb. 24-25, 2024







# 2023 State Legislative Agenda

## HIGHEST PRIORITY ISSUES

### Affordable Housing and Land Use

Washington State faces an affordable housing crisis. Bellevue supports legislative action that takes a balanced, collaborative approach. Necessary state tools include regulatory reform, condominium liability reform, and safe harbor for cities increasing development capacity. Incentives and new funding options, such as a new local option Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), are essential for the construction and acquisition of affordable housing. Where possible, such options should be progressively structured to minimize impacts on low- and moderate-income households. Bellevue supports statewide policies to increase housing supply, including expanding middle housing. The state should build upon local actions underway by Bellevue and many other cities.

- Bellevue requests funding for a strategic land acquisition bank to implement or preserve affordable housing and support transit-oriented development. Bellevue seeks state funding to match City investment dollar-for-dollar.

### Transportation

Bellevue appreciates the Legislature's bold action to pass Move Ahead Washington, which made crucial multimodal investments and closed the I-405 funding gap. As the Legislature and WSDOT implement Move Ahead Washington projects, Bellevue requests that the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail (142nd Place SE to 150th Avenue SE) funding be phased as follows:

- \$300,000 in the 2023-25 biennium for final design and easement acquisition in advance of construction
- \$6.6 million in the 2025-27 biennium for construction

This sequencing is critical to maximize a \$2.37 million federal match that must be obligated by June 2025. The project supports access to transit and higher education, providing equitable mobility options to emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing under construction.

Additionally, the City supports programming the Move Ahead Washington funds for the Eastrail Wilburton Trestle and I-90 Steel Bridge in Bellevue in the 2023-25 biennium.



**Invest in Bellevue** A great return on investment

**\$2.3 Billion** total investment in Bellevue's Spring District, the West Coast's single largest transit-oriented redevelopment underway

**136,000** workers use the region's multi-modal transportation network to commute into Bellevue each day

**20 Percent** of Washington's exports are technology projects from the Innovation Triangle of Bellevue-Redmond-Kirkland

## Invest in Bellevue

A GREAT RETURN FOR ALL OF WASHINGTON

**\$1.2 Billion Tax Revenue**

Returned to the state government in 2021 by Bellevue businesses and residents

**\$4 Million Tax** largest producer of tax in the state

**\$233 Million B&O Tax**

**\$1 Million School Tax**

**\$162 Million REET Tax**

INVESTMENT

**\$2.3 Billion**

state investment in Bellevue light rail

1,000

used the region's multi-modal transportation network to commute into Bellevue in 2019

20 Percent

of Washington's exports originate from the Innovation Triangle

\$1.2 Billion

in tax revenue returned to the state government in 2021 by Bellevue businesses and residents





# Direction

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