

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

State Legislative Update

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City Manager's Office

DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL**INFORMATION
ONLY**

No action is required; this is an informational briefing. The State Legislature addresses a range of policy issues of interest to the City. Council may wish to provide direction to staff regarding legislative proposals.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS**Interim Workgroups**

Throughout the legislative interim, there are dozens of interim committees and workgroups that meet and develop policy recommendations for the Legislature's consideration. Below are some highlighted workgroups:

- Middle Housing Types: The Association of Washington Cities has issued a Request for Proposals to identify a neutral facilitator to lead a discussion that aims to identify a consensus on how to increase middle housing types throughout the state. The work is scheduled to start in late July and be completed in October. Meanwhile, legislators and stakeholders have floated a variety of concepts for consideration.
- Tax Structure Workgroup: The [Washington State Tax Structure Workgroup](#) has been meeting since 2017 to identify options to make the Washington State tax code more fair, adequate, stable, and transparent. The work group is tasked with recommending legislation for the 2023 legislative session. To date, workgroup members have indicated a willingness to further discuss replacing the state business and occupation tax with a margins tax, a working families tax credit, a primary residence property tax exemption, a wealth tax, and adjusting the property tax limit factor. The committee chose not to advance a flat or progressive personal income tax, a flat or progressive corporate income tax, an employer compensation tax, and a value added tax. At the most recent meeting on May 25th the work group discussed specific issues related to each of the proposed new taxes and provided guidance to the Department of Revenue (DOR) to help inform modeling and drafting of proposals. DOR will work with the Technical Advisory Group over the summer and the Workgroup will reconvene in September to review the policy proposals. To view the slides from the most recent meeting, click [here](#).
- Business License Threshold: Under Washington State law, a city cannot require a business license from a business unless the business has collected \$2,000 in revenue within the city annually. If a business generates less than that within the city, it is not required to get a

business license. The National Federation of Independent Businesses and the Association of Washington Businesses have asked to revisit this threshold, particularly related to revenue stemming from deliveries within a city.

- Distribution of Federal Funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provided Washington State with over \$3 billion in federal funding through programs that distribute funding formulaically. Washington State has historically convened a work group to discuss how to split those formulaic funds between state and local governments – a unique process that is applauded by other states for reaching a consensus on how to most effectively spend federal funds at the state and local level. Keeping with that historic tradition, the Washington State Legislature tasked the Joint Transportation Committee with convening a [Workgroup on Distribution of Federal Funds from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA). The Association of Washington Cities has representation on the work group. On June 8, the Workgroup held its first meeting, which consisted of an overview of the IIJA and the Move Ahead Washington package adopted during the 2022 legislative session. This Workgroup is not tasked with addressing discretionary competitive funds; only formulaically distributed funds.
- Growth Management Act Reform: Several reforms to the Growth Management Act have passed into law over the last legislative biennium ([House Bill 1220](#), [House Bill 1241](#), [Senate Bill 5042](#)). More often than not, these reforms create additional cost burdens for cities, requiring the Association to continuously push for state funding to assist in the planning and implementation of these changes. Discussions around adding climate change mitigation ([House Bill 1099](#)) and salmon recovery efforts as a goal of the GMA ([House Bill 1117](#)), and other potential new responsibilities are likely to be considered during the 2023 session.

Since 2017, the Legislature has tasked the William D. Ruckelshaus Center, the University of Washington, and now the Department of Commerce to evaluate potential changes to the GMA. The Commerce-led task force will be meeting on a regular basis throughout the interim and will provide formal recommendations to the Legislature prior to the 2023 session. Click [here](#) to view the task force webpage for meeting information and more.

- Broadband Deployment Best Practices Workgroup: The Legislature considered but did not approve legislation that would have required cities to allow telecommunications providers to use microtrenching (small trenches in pavement) to deploy fiberoptic lines. Stemming from that legislation, local governments agreed to participate in an informal work group with telecommunication providers to explore best practices in deploying broadband. That informal workgroup held an initial meeting on June 17. The City of Bellevue has been asked to present at the next workgroup meeting on its right-of-way franchise agreement and permit processes.

State Initiative Efforts

When the Legislature adjourned its activities in March, it appeared that I-929, repealing a 7% tax on capital gains exceeding \$250,000 enacted by the Legislature in 2021, would be the only ballot initiative. Since then, the I-929 campaign has folded, opting instead to continue challenging the tax through the legal system. Douglas County Superior Court found the tax unconstitutional, and Attorney General Ferguson has appealed that decision to the Washington State Supreme Court.

Taking its place in vying for a position on the November ballot is I-922, which would decriminalize the possession of controlled substances, and direct cannabis revenues to fund treatment and recovery services, law enforcement training, and public outreach. Largely backed by the American Civil Liberties Union, the campaign in favor of I-922 has reported raising just over \$2.5 million and has spent just over \$1.9 million on a signature gathering efforts. I-922 needs to collect 325,000 signatures by July 8, 2022 for the initiative to qualify for the November 2022 ballot.

In 2021, the Washington State Supreme Court issued a ruling in the *Blake* decision that found the statute making possession of controlled substances a felony was unconstitutional. The Legislature responded by enacting a temporary policy making possession of controlled substances a misdemeanor, with requirements to divert offenders to treatment both prior to arrest and prior to prosecution. This temporary policy sunsets in 2023. I-922 would ensure that possession of controlled substances is decriminalized, largely removing the decision from the Legislature. If approved by voters, the Legislature would need a 2/3 majority of each chamber to amend or repeal I-922.

State Legislative Elections

Ballots will be mailed out on July 15 for the August 2 primary election. The top two candidates in each race will advance to the November 2022 ballot. As a reminder, each position in the State House of Representatives and half the positions State Senate are up for election. Attached to this report is a chart outlining the candidates in each legislative district. Candidates will be seeking election to [new district boundaries](#).

There are several races where the August 2 primary will be pivotal in determining who advances to the November 2022 ballot. Below are a few races to call to your attention:

- Two of the most contentious races for seats in the Senate will be significantly shaped by the outcome of the August primary. In the 42nd Legislative District in Whatcom County, the August primary will determine which republican candidate, appointed Senator Simon Sefzik or Ben Elenbaas, will advance to face democrat Sharon Shewmake in November. Similarly, in the 47th Legislative District in south King County, the August primary will determine which democrat candidate, Satwinder Kaur or Claudia Kauffman, advances to be the primary challenger against Republican Bill Boyce in November.
- There are several open seats in the House of Representatives that have several candidates of both parties vying for the position, including the seats in the 17th, 22nd, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 42nd, 46th, and 47th legislative districts. The August primary will serve its intended purpose of narrowing the number of candidates to only two in each of these positions.

The current political party breakdown for each chamber is as follows:

House of Representatives: 57 Democrats and 41 Republicans

State Senate: 28 Democrats, 20 Republicans, 1 Democrat who aligns with republican

Republicans hope to gain additional positions in the November 2022 elections, while Democrats concede that it is likely they will lose positions. At this early stage of the election process, it is unclear whether Democrats will maintain the majority in both chambers or whether Republicans will gain the majority in one or both chambers.

Secretary of State Election

There will only be one statewide race on the November 2022 election ballot: Washington's Secretary of the State. Former Secretary of State Kim Wyman left the position to take a federal appointment. Governor Jay Inslee appointed Steve Hobbs, then Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, to the position. Steve Hobbs will now run for the position and faces Independent opponent Julie Anderson who serves as Pierce County's current auditor, Republican opponent Keith Wagoner, current senator in the 39th Legislative District, and Republican opponent Mark Miloscia, former senator in the 31st Legislative District who previously switched parties, as well as four lesser known candidates.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

The State Legislature addresses a range of policy issues of interest to the City.

OPTIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

A. Chart of Candidates in Legislative Districts

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A

2022 ELECTIONSState Legislative Races

Position	Dist.	Incumbent	Challenger
State Senator	6	Jeff Holy (R)	
State Senator	7	Shelly Short (R)	
State Senator	8	Sharon Brown (R)	Matt Boehnke (R) Ronni Batchelor (D) Alex Barrington (R)
State Senator	13	Judy Warnick (R)	
State Senator	15	Jim Honeyford (R)	Nikki Torres (R)
State Senator	21	Marko Liias (D)	Janelle Cass (R)
State Senator	26	Emily Randall (D)	Jesse Young (R) David Crissman (R)
State Senator	27	Yasmin Trudeau (D)	Ashley Ray (R) Mike Stewart (R)
State Senator	29	Steve Conway (D)	Terry Harder (R)
State Senator	30	Claire Wilson (D)	Linda Kochmar (R) Mark Christie (R)
State Senator	31	Phil Fortunato (R)	Chris Vance (I) Clifford Knopik (None)
State Senator	32	Jesse Salomon (D)	Evelyn Anthony (I) Patricia Weber (D)
State Senator	33	Karen Keiser (D)	
State Senator	34	Joe Nguyen (D)	Amber Bennett (I) John Potter (R) Tony Mitchum (None) Goodspaceguy (R)
State Senator	35	Tim Sheldon (D)	Drew MacEwen (R) Julianne Gale (D)
State Senator	36	Reuven Carlyle (D)	Noel Frame (D) Kate Martin (D)
State Senator	37	Rebecca Saldaña (D)	
State Senator	38	June Robinson (D)	Anita Azariah (R) Bernard Moody (R)
State Senator	42	Simon Sefzik (R)	Ben Elenbaas (R) Sharon Shewmake (D)
State Senator	43	Jamie Pedersen (D)	
State Senator	44	John Lovick (D)	Jeb Brewer (R)

State Senator	45	Manka Dhingra (D)	Ryika Hooshangi (R)
State Senator	46	David Frock (D)	Javier Valdez (D) Matthew Gross (D) Alex Tsimerman (Other)
State Senator	47	Mona Das (D)	Bill Boyce (R) Satwinder Kaur (D) Claudia Kauffman (D)
State Senator	48	Patty Kuderer D	Michelle Darnell (R)

Position	Dist.	Incumbent	Challenger
State Representative	1	Davina Duerr (D)	John Peeples (R)
State Representative	1	Shelley Kloba (D)	Jerry Buccola (R)
State Representative	2	Andrew Barkis (R)	
State Representative	2	J.T. Wilcox (R)	Edward Meer (None)
State Representative	3	Marcus Riccelli (D)	Scotty Nicol (R)
State Representative	3	Timm Ormsby (D)	Natalie Poulson (R) Patrick Spurlock (None)
State Representative	4	Rob Chase (R)	Leonard Christian (R)
State Representative	4	Bob McCaslin (R)	MJ Bolt (R) Suzanne Schmidt (R) Ted Cummings (D)
State Representative	5	Bill Ramos (D)	Ken Moninski (R) Autin Bryant (Other)
State Representative	5	Lisa Callan (D)	Chad Magendanz (R)
State Representative	6	Mike Volz (R)	
State Representative	6	Jenny Graham (R)	Michaela Kelso (D)
State Representative	7	Jacquelin Maycumber (R)	Lonny Ray Williams (R)
State Representative	7	Joel Kretz (R)	
State Representative	8	Brad Klippert (R)	Stephanie Barnard (R) Glenn Taylor (R) Patrick Guettner (R)
State Representative	8	Matt Boehnke (R)	April Connors (R) Joe Cotta (R) Larry Stanley (Other) John Christianson (D)
State Representative	9	Mary Dye (R)	
State Representative	9	Joe Schmick (R)	
State Representative	10	Greg Gilday (R)	Clyde Shavers (D)
State Representative	10	Dave Paul (D)	Karen Lesetmoe (R)

			Ryan Campbell (R)
State Representative	11	David Hackney (D)	Stephanie Peters (R)
State Representative	11	Steve Bergquist (D)	Jeanette Burrage (R)
State Representative	12	Keith Goehner (R)	
State Representative	12	Mike Steele (R)	Robert Amenn (R)
State Representative	13	Tom Dent (R)	
State Representative	13	Alex Ybarra (R)	
State Representative	14	Chris Corry (R)	Laurene Contreras (None)
State Representative	14	Gina Mosbrucker (R)	Liz Hallock (Green) Chris Faison (I)
State Representative	15	Bruce Chandler (R)	
State Representative	15	Jeremie Dufault (R)	Bryan Sandlin (R)
State Representative	16	Mark Klicker (R)	Jeff Stickler (D) Sharon Kay Schiller (Other)
State Representative	16	Skyler Rude (R)	Jan Corn (D)
State Representative	17	Vicki Kraft (R)	Hannah Joy (R) Kevin Waters (R) Anthony Ho (R) Terri Niles (D)
State Representative	17	Paul Harris (R)	Justin Forsman (R) Joe Kear (D) Earl Bowerman (R)
State Representative	18	Brandon Vick (R)	John Zingale (D) Stephanie McClintock (R)
State Representative	18	Larry Hoff (R)	Duncan Camacho (D) Greg Cheney (R) John Ley (R) Brad Benton (R)
State Representative	19	Jim Walsh (R)	Kelli Hughes-Ham (D)
State Representative	19	Joel McEntire (R)	Cara Cusack (D) Jon-Erik Hegstad (D)
State Representative	20	Peter Abbarno (R)	
State Representative	20	Ed Orcutt (R)	
State Representative	21	Strom Peterson (D)	Amy Schaper (R)
State Representative	21	Lillian Ortiz-Self (D)	Jennifer Short (R) Petra Bigea (R)
State Representative	22	Laurie Dolan (D)	Beth Doglio (D) Sans Gilmore (R)

			Loretta Byrnes (R) Maria Siguenza (D) Sarah Leon (D) Anthony Keen (D)
State Representative	22	Jessica Bateman (D)	Kate Plager (R)
State Representative	23	Tarra Simmons (D)	Ace Harry Haynes (R) Janell Hulst (R)
State Representative	23	Drew Hansen (D)	Paige Jarquin (R)
State Representative	24	Mike Chapman (D)	Matthew Rainwater (R) Sue Forde (R)
State Representative	24	Steve Tharinger (D)	Brian Pruiett (R) Darren Corcoran (D)
State Representative	25	Kelly Chambers (R)	Jamie Smith (D)
State Representative	25	Cyndy Jacobsen (R)	
State Representative	26	Jesse Young (R)	Adison Richards (D) Spencer Hutchins (R)
State Representative	26	Michelle Caldier (R)	Matthew Macklin (D)
State Representative	27	Laurie Jenkins (D)	Jalonnies Givens Jackson (R) Todd Briske (None)
State Representative	27	Jake Fey (D)	Janet Large (R) Dhaval Patel (None)
State Representative	28	Mari Leavitt (D)	Dre Le Blanc (R) Victor Hogan (R) Gabe Sachwitz (None)
State Representative	28	Dan Bronoske (D)	Susanna Keilman (R) Chris Nye (R)
State Representative	29	Melanie Morgan (D)	Brett Johnson (R) Tim Monaghan (D)
State Representative	29	Steve Kirby (D)	Sharlett Mena (D) Melissa Knott (D)
State Representative	30	Jamila Taylor (D)	Paul McDaniel (R) Casey Jones (R) Janis Clark (R)
State Representative	30	Jesse Johnson (D)	Carey Anderson (D) Kristine Reeves (D) Ashli Tagoai (R) Mark Greene (R)
State Representative	31	Drew Stokesbary (R)	Brandon Beynon (R) Holly Stanton (D)
State Representative	31	Eric Robertson (R)	

State Representative	32	Cindy Ryu (D)	Lori Theis (Other)
State Representative	32	Lauren Davis (D)	Anothny Hubbard (R)
State Representative	33	Tina Orwall (D)	
State Representative	33	Mia Gregerson (D)	
State Representative	34	Eileen Cody (D)	Leah Griffin (D) Emily Alvarado (D) Jolie Lansdowne (R)
State Representative	34	Joe Fitzgibbon (D)	Andrew Pilloud (R)
State Representative	35	Dan Griffey (R)	James DeHart (D)
State Representative	35	Drew MacEwen (R)	Patti Case (R) Sandy Kaiser (D) Tiffany Sevruck (R) Travis Couture (R)
State Representative	36	Noel Frame (D)	Jeff Manson (D) Julia Reed (D) Nicole Gomez (D) Waylon Robert (D) Elizabeth Crone (D)
State Representative	36	Liz Berry (D)	
State Representative	37	Sharon Tomiko Santos (D)	John Dickinson (R)
State Representative	37	Kirsten Harris-Talley (D)	Andrew Ashiofu (D) Chipalo Street (D) Emijah Smith (D) Nimco Bulale (D)
State Representative	38	Emily Wicks (D)	Julio Cortes (D) Gary Kemp (R) Daryl Williams (D) Bert Johnson (R)
State Representative	38	Mike Sells (D)	Mary Fosse (D) Mark James (R) David Wiley (L) Christopher Elliott (None)
State Representative	39	Robert Sutherland (R)	Claus Joens (D) Sam Low (R) Karl de Jong (D)
State Representative	39	Carolyn Eslick (R)	Jessica Wadhams (D) Tyller Boomgaarden (R) Kathryn Lewendowsky (I)

State Representative	40	Debra Lekanoff (D)	
State Representative	40	Alex Ramel (D)	Trevor Smith (D)
State Representative	41	Tana Senn (D)	Mike Nykreim (Other)
State Representative	41	My-Linh Thai (D)	Al Rosenthal (R) Elle Nguyen (R)
State Representative	42	Alicia Rule (D)	Kamal Bhachu (R) Tawsha Thompson (R)
State Representative	42	Sharon Shewmake (D)	Dan Johnson (R) Joe Timmons (D) Kyle Christensen (R) Richard May (D)
State Representative	43	Nicole Macri (D)	
State Representative	43	Frank Chopp (D)	
State Representative	44	Brandy Donaghy (D)	Mark Harmsworth (R)
State Representative	44	April Berg (D)	Ryne Rohla (R)
State Representative	45	Roger Goodman (D)	Cherese Bourgoin (R)
State Representative	45	Larry Springer (D)	Amber Krabach (Other) John Gibbons (R)
State Representative	46	Gerry Pollet (D)	Hadeel Jeanne (D)
State Representative	46	Javier Valdez (D)	Darya Farivar (D) Lelach Rave (D) Melissa Taylor (D) Nancy Connolly (D) Nina Martinez (D)
State Representative	47	Debra Entenman (D)	Kyle Lyebyedyev (R) Jessie Ramsey (R)
State Representative	47	Pat Sullivan (D)	Carmen Goers (R) Shukri Olow (D) Chris Stearns (D) Ted Cooke (R) Barry Knowles (R)
State Representative	48	Vandana Slatter (D)	
State Representative	48	Amy Walen (D)	
State Representative	49	Sharon Wylie (D)	Park Llafet (R)
State Representative	49	Monica Jurado Stonier (D)	Jeremy Baker (R)

Washington Statewide Races

Position	Incumbent	Challenger
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US Senator	Patty Murray (D)	Henry Clay Dennison (Other) Mohammad Hassan Said (D) John Guenther (R) Tiffany Smiley (R) Dan Phan Doan (None) Dr Pano Churchill (D) Dave Saulibio (R) Sam Cusmir (D) Bill Hirt (R) Jon Butler (I) Bryan Solstin (D) Martin Hash (None) Thor Amundson (I) Charlie Jackson (I) Naz Paul (I) Ravin Pierre (D) Leon Lawson (R)
SOS	Steve Hobbs (D)	Bob Hagglund (R) Julie Anderson (Other) Keith Wagoner (R) Tamborine Borrelli (Other) Kurtis Engle (Other) Marquez Tiggs (D) Mark Miloscia (R)