



City of Bellevue

City Manager's Office

**DATE:** March 18, 2024

**SUBJECT:** February 2024 State Legislative Update

**OVERVIEW:**

The 2024 Legislative Session began Monday, January 8, with February marking the second month of the Legislative Session, which is scheduled to end on Thursday, March 7. In February, each chamber released their respective 2024 Supplemental Operating, Capital, and Transportation Budget proposals. Additionally, the Legislature spent the first part of the month approving bills in their chamber-of-origin (the House of Representatives approved House bills; the Senate approved Senate bills). Legislators spent the second half of the month considering bills approved by the opposite chamber. To remain under consideration, bills needed to have passed both chambers by March 1.

Six initiatives to the Legislature were filed. For each initiative, the Legislature has three options: 1) pass the proposed initiative into law; 2) take no action, thereby forwarding the proposed initiative to voters in November 2024 for consideration; or 3) forward the proposed initiative to voters in November 2024 along with an alternative, i.e. a competing proposal.

In February, the Legislature held public hearings on and is likely to pass three of the six initiatives in early March:

- Initiative 2081 relates to parental access to educational materials used in public schools
- Initiative 2109 prohibits state or local governments from imposing an income tax
- Initiative 2113 allows officers to engage in vehicular pursuits on more occasions

The remaining three initiatives will likely be forwarded to voters for consideration in November 2024:

- Initiative 2124 makes it optional to participate in the state's long term care program
- Initiative 2117 repeals the Climate Commitment Act
- Initiative 2111 repeals the capital gains tax



## **HOUSE AND SENATE BUDGET PROPOSALS:**

The House of Representatives and Senate each released their respective 2024 Supplemental Operating, Capital, and Transportation Budget proposals. During the final weeks of session, the House and Senate will reconcile differences between their proposals to adopt final budgets. Below are brief summaries of the proposals from each chamber.

### **Supplemental Capital Budget Proposals**

The 2024 Supplemental Capital Budget proposals from the Senate and House of Representatives were, as expected, constrained in their spending. Both chambers propose to spend approximately \$1.3 billion, including approximately \$660 million in Climate Commitment Act (CCA) funds. Both chambers make appropriations utilizing CCA funds contingent on voters rejecting Initiative-2117 in November. Other areas of significant investment across both budget proposals include housing, behavioral health, and the kindergarten through 12 educational system. The House of Representatives proposes to spend more money than the Senate on housing, and less than the Senate on education. Review the [Senate's proposed capital budget](#) and the [House of Representative's proposed capital budget](#) for a complete breakdown.

### **Supplemental Operating Budget Proposals**

The 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget proposals from the Senate and the House of Representatives each assume an additional \$1.1 billion in spending to pay for the continuation of current programs and services. Beyond maintaining existing services, both chambers propose new investments, with the House of Representatives proposing \$1.1 billion in new spending compared to the Senate's proposal to spend \$722 million. The House of Representatives proposes to spend \$32.3 million on students with special education needs, while the Senate allocates \$13.5 million. The Senate allocates \$32 million for housing and homelessness, while the House allocates \$70 million. The House also spends \$30 million to pay farmers who bought fuel for agricultural purposes but paid a surcharge under the Climate Commitment Act. Review the [Senate's proposed operating budget](#) and the [House of Representative's proposed operating budget for a complete breakdown](#).

### **Supplemental Transportation Budget Summary**

The 2024 Supplemental Transportation Budget proposals from the Senate and House of Representatives reflect significant revenue shortages resulting from project cost increases and declining fuel tax revenues. Both chambers propose spending Climate Commitment Act funds on projects, but won't release funding until January 1, 2025 and make appropriations contingent on voters rejecting Initiative-2117 in November.

There are other stark differences between the two proposals on how they handle mega projects, such as the State Route 520 project and the Puget Sound Gateway project, and the level of investment in medium/heavy duty fleet electrification. Review the [Senate's proposed transportation budgets](#) and the [House of Representatives proposal](#) for a complete breakdown.



### **Association of Washington Cities' Budget Comparison**

For further information on supplemental budget proposals, the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) has created [budget comparison documents](#) for review.

### **FUNDING REQUESTS:**

Funding opportunities are more limited during the short 2024 legislative session. The City of Bellevue is making modest requests on two projects that align in the funding realities of this session:

#### **Electric Fire Engine**

The City of Bellevue has partnered with the City of Redmond to jointly request \$800,000 to fund the state's first two electric fire engines and associated charging infrastructure. This project is eligible to receive funding through the Climate Commitment Act.

The Senate Supplemental Operating Budget proposal and the House of Representatives Supplemental Transportation Budget proposal each allocate \$800,000 to Bellevue and Redmond to support the purchase of the first two electric fire engines in Washington State. Both proposals make the funding contingent on voters rejecting Initiative-2117 in November.

#### **Mountains to Sound Greenway**

The City of Bellevue was allocated \$6.9 million in the 2022 Move Ahead Washington package for the Mountains to Sound Greenway project. In 2023, the Legislature programmed this funding, allocating \$300,000 in 2023-25, and \$6.6 million in "future biennia" post-2029. The allocation of the \$6.6 million post-2029 puts \$2.37 million in federal funding allocated to the project through the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) at risk of being lost. The Governor's proposed 2024 Supplemental Transportation Budget allocates \$6.6 million in the 2025-27 biennium, allowing the City to receive the funding and meet the funding obligation deadline associated with the federal funds.

The Supplemental Transportation Budget proposals from both the House of Representatives and the Senate propose re-programming the funding for the Mountains to Sound Greenway Project to allocate \$6.9 million in the 2023-25 biennium. This is even earlier than the City's original request to advance \$6.6 million of the funding to the 2025-27 biennium. The funding is, however, contingent on voters rejecting Initiative-2117 in November.

#### **Interstate 405/State Route 167 (I-405/SR 167) Corridor Investments**

The I-405/SR 167 Executive Advisory Committee encouraged the Legislature to provide an up-front investment in the 2023-2025 biennium for preliminary engineering work on the projects remaining in the funding program, including interchange improvements at NE 6th Street and Coal Creek Parkway. The Senate allocated \$2 million in their proposed Supplemental Transportation Budget for the I-405/Renton to Bellevue Widening and Express Toll Lanes



project in the 2023-2025 biennium. The House of Representatives did not include this same \$2 million.

## **POLICY PROPOSALS:**

### **Homelessness and Human Services**

**Extreme Weather Events:** [House Bill 1012](#), sponsored by Representative Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), provides resources for local governments to provide services during extreme weather events. The House approved the bill 58-30 and the Senate approved the bill 31-18 with an amendment allowing the Military Department to purchase temporary shelters to loan out to political subdivisions when assisting with extreme weather events. In March, the House will need to consider whether to concur with the Senate's amendments.

**Commercial to Residential Incentives:** [Senate Bill 6175](#), sponsored by Senator Yasmin Trudeau (D-27th LD), establishes incentives for projects that convert commercial/non-residential buildings to residential purposes. The version that the Senate passed clarifies that buildings being converted to residential use qualify under the existing Multifamily Tax Exemption program. It also allows a city to offer a state and local sales and use tax exemption to commercial/non-residential buildings that are converted to residential use and dedicate 10 percent of the units to households making 80 percent of the area median income or less. While the House of Representatives has not yet approved the bill, it is considered "necessary to implement the budget" and may be approved in March.

**Workforce Housing Accelerator:** [House Bill 1892](#), sponsored by Representative Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), creates the Workforce Housing Accelerator Revolving Loan Fund Program within the Department of Commerce. The Department of Commerce will administer loans to eligible organizations to assist with the development of housing for low-income households. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Affordable Homeownership Unit Development:** [Senate Bill 6173](#), sponsored by Senator T'wina Nobles (D-28th LD), allows local jurisdictions to use revenue from the affordable and supportive housing sales and use tax for housing and services for people whose income is at or below 80 percent of the median income of the local jurisdiction that imposes the tax. This is applicable only if the jurisdiction supports affordable housing development. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Multiunit Residential Buildings Definition:** [Senate Bill 5792](#), sponsored by Senator Mike Padden (R-4th LD), excludes buildings with 12 or fewer units that are no more than three stories from the definition of multiunit residential building if one story is utilized for above or below



ground parking, or retail space. The bill is intended to address the condominium construction deficit. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**First Responder Wellness:** [House Bill 2311](#), sponsored by Representative Lauren Davis (D-32nd LD), requires the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) to create a task force on first responder, coroner, and medical examiner wellness. The CJTC will establish and administer a grant program for funding the implementation of peer support counseling programs. The CJTC must, subject to appropriations, contract to develop certain trainings and resources for first responder, coroner, and medical examiner wellness and peer support. The bill also amends statutory provisions to allow testimonial privilege during peer support group meetings. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Assisting Refugees and Immigrants:** [House Bill 2368](#), sponsored by Representative Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD), requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to coordinate state, federal, and local efforts to support the economic and social integration of immigrants and refugees arriving and resettling in Washington. The DSHS will provide refugees with cash assistance, medical assistance, and support services. Additionally, DSHS is authorized to administer services to immigrants who don't qualify for federally funded services. The bill specifies that the DSHS will coordinate statewide efforts to support economic and social integration of immigrants and refugees into the state, and it expands the DSHS requirements to support basic needs of immigrants and refugees in the State. The DSHS will also be the lead agency for the administrative plan for refugee resettlement. Finally, it requires DSHS to coordinate with local, state, federal, and other stakeholders, and for DSHS to engage with impacted communities to determine an equitable funding distribution and contracting process. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

***Bills that Failed to Meet Cutoff Deadlines:***

***Rent Regulation:*** *The House of Representatives approved [House Bill 2114](#), sponsored by Representative Emily Alvarado (D-34th LD), which limits annual rent increases to no more than 7 percent per year, caps late fees to 1.5 percent of the tenant's monthly rent and provides additional tenant protections. The Senate Ways & Means Committee did not vote on the bill prior to the opposite chamber fiscal committee cutoff deadline and it is no longer under consideration.*

***Real Estate Excise Tax:*** *[House Bill 2276](#), sponsored by Representative April Berg (D-48th LD) would lower the real estate excise tax for certain mid prices properties and implement a new 1 percent tax on the sale of properties above \$3.025 million. The revenue generated from the new real estate transfer tax is dedicated to affordable*





*housing programs. While the bill did not meet many of the traditional cutoff deadlines, it advanced out of the House Finance Committee last week but then promptly stalled in the House Rules Committee and is not expected to pass into law.*

**Department of Housing:** [House Bill 2270](#), sponsored by Representative Melanie Morgan (D-29th LD), directs the Office of Financial Management to contract with an external consultant to study the transition of state housing programs into a new state agency and to identify gaps in current housing programs. The Senate Ways & Means Committee did not vote on the bill prior to the opposite chamber fiscal committee cutoff deadline and it is no longer under consideration.

**Short Term Rental Tax for Affordable Housing:** [Senate Bill 5334](#), sponsored by Senator Liz Lovelett (D-40th LD), allows the legislative authority of a county or city to impose up to a 10 percent excise tax on the sale of lodging of short-term rentals to fund affordable housing. While the Senate approved the bill, the bill stalled in the House Rules Committee and seems unlikely to pass into law this session.

**Co-responsive Services and Trainings:** [House Bill 2245](#), sponsored by Representative Dan Bronoske (D-28th LD), establishes a co-response services and training program as an essential component of the crisis care continuum. The University of Washington School of Social Work is required to: establish co-response training pilot program and peer support group; explore development of credentialing opportunities; and provide an annual assessment to the Governor and Legislature. The bill did not get voted out of the policy committee prior to the cutoff deadline and will not be considered this session; however, may be established through budget proviso.

## **PLANNING/LAND USE:**

**Residential Housing Regulations:** [House Bill 2071](#), sponsored by Representative Davina Duerr (D-1st LD), concerns residential housing regulations. The bill directs the State Building Code Council to convene two technical advisory groups: one to recommend changes needed to apply the International Residential Code (IRC) to multiplex housing, and another to recommend changes needed to the International Building Code (IBC) to allow dwelling units with less than 190 square feet. It prohibits cities and counties from requiring off-street parking for residential projects and requires cities and counties to modify setback limits and gross floor area requirements for retrofitting buildings for residential housing. The bill specifies that cities and counties are not prohibited from applying the State Building Code when allowing the required modifications to setbacks, height limits, and gross floor retrofits for retrofits of buildings being converted into residential housing. The bill was amended to state that nothing in the bill requires a city or county to allow a setback of less than 36 inches between residential dwelling units. The Senate approved the bill with an amendment that removes the requirement that counties and certain cities must modify the setback, height limit, and gross floor area requirements for



retrofits of existing buildings that are to be used for residential housing and for new residential construction and retrofit of existing buildings meeting passive house requirements. The Senate amendment also removes the provision that prohibits certain cities and counties from requiring off-street parking for residential projects if tree retention or protection requirements otherwise make a proposed residential development infeasible. The House of Representatives will now consider whether to concur or reject the Senate amendments.

**Co-Living Housing:** [House Bill 1998](#), sponsored by Representative Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD) requires cities to allow co-living. Co-living is housing where sleeping units within the same home are rented independently, are lockable, and provide living and sleeping space. Co-living housing can include rented rooms in a home, as well as other congregate living facilities. The House of Representatives and the Senate each approved an amended version of the bill that requires co-living to be allowed anywhere that six multifamily residential units are allowed and changes the implementation date to December 31, 2025 to allow cities additional time to implement the provisions of the bill. The bill has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Middle Housing Trailer Bill:** [House Bill 2321](#), sponsored by Representative Jessica Bateman (D-22nd LD), modifies certain provisions of the 2023 middle housing policies. The bill requires that cities with a population of at least 25,000 must allow six of the nine types of middle housing. Cities with less than 25,000 people can choose the number of middle housing types that meet minimum density requirements. The bill also allows middle housing to be built on lots where a portion of the lot is a critical area. Finally, middle housing densities only apply around bus rapid transit stops once construction of those stops has begun rather than when the stops are included within a 6-year transit plan. The House of Representatives approved the bill. The Senate also approved the bill but amended it to exempt areas designated as sole-source aquifers by the United States Environmental Protection Agency on islands in the Puget Sound from the density requirements. The House of Representatives will now need to concur or reject the Senate's amendment.

**Residential Parking:** [Senate Bill 6015](#), sponsored by Senator Sharon Shewmake (D-42nd LD), states that certain types of parking must be allowed to meet minimum parking requirements. For example, the bill states that a city cannot require parking to be enclosed or require a garage or carport. Tandem parking must be allowed to count toward parking minimums and a city may not require parking spaces greater than 8 feet by 20 feet. The Senate approved the bill. The House of Representatives approved an amended version of the bill to allow parking spots that consist of grass block pavers to count toward minimum parking requirements. The amendment also specifies that gravel surfacing in parking areas must be legally non-confirming and limited to six parking spaces. Finally, it prohibits counties planning under the GMA, and cities within those counties with a population over 6,000, from requiring off-street parking as a condition of permitting a residential project if compliance with tree retention would otherwise make a proposed residential development or redevelopment infeasible. The Senate will now need to concur or reject these amendments.



**Bills that Failed to Meet Cutoff Deadlines:**

**Commerce Approval of Shelter Regulations:** *The House of Representatives approved [House Bill 2474](#), sponsored by Representative Strom Peterson (D-21st LD), establishing a process for cities to submit zoning and development regulations for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelter to Commerce for review and approval, and prohibiting a city from denying a project permit application unless it has received approval from Commerce or a court. The House of Representatives approved the bill, but the bill stalled in the Senate Local Government Committee and is no longer under consideration this session.*

**Residential Lot Splitting:** *[House Bill 1245](#), sponsored by Representative Andrew Barkis (R-2nd LD), requires cities planning under the Growth Management Act to allow the splitting of a single residential lot into two residential lots. The House of Representatives approved the bill, but the bill stalled in the Senate Local Government Committee and is no longer under consideration this session.*

**Housing Development Exemptions:** *[Senate Bill 6061](#), sponsored by Senator Liz Lovelett (D-40th LD), concerns exemptions for housing development under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The Senate approved the bill, but the bill stalled in the House Rules Committee and is no longer under consideration this session.*

**Community and Transit-oriented Housing Development:** *[House Bill 2160](#), sponsored by Representative Julia Reed (D-36th LD) mandating that cities allow transit-oriented development densities for residential and mixed use development around light rail and bus rapid transit stops in 2029. The House of Representatives approved the bill, but the bill stalled in the Senate Ways and Means Committee and is no longer under consideration this session.*

**CLIMATE AND THE ENVIRONMENT:**

**Heat Pumps:** *[Senate Bill 5973](#), sponsored by Senator Marko Liias (D-21st LD), prohibits Homeowner Associations (HOAs) from adopting restrictions or prohibiting the installation of heat pumps. An HOA must pay a civil penalty of \$1,000 if they violate this prohibition. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.*

**Organic Material (Compost) Management Systems:** *[House Bill 2301](#), sponsored by Representative Beth Doglio (D-22nd LD), makes various changes related to organic material management. The bill creates and modifies existing grant programs for projects and programs that reduce food waste, policy implementation, and compost products. Organic material*





collection requirements in certain jurisdictions and certain businesses are modified. Bin colors for solid waste collection services must be standardized across local governments. The bill was approved by the House of Representatives and then further amended in the Senate to remove language regarding biennial funding for certain grant and award programs. The bill also makes technical changes and changes to product labeling. The Senate approved an amended version of the bill. The House of Representatives will now need to concur or reject the Senate amendments.

**Zero Emission School Buses:** [House Bill 1368](#), sponsored by Representative Tana Senn (D-41st LD), requires the Department of Ecology (DOE) to administer a zero-emission school bus grant program, and prioritize grants to overburdened communities and school districts with buses manufactured prior to 2007. The House of Representatives approved the bill. The Senate approved and further amended the bill to state that once the total cost of ownership of zero emission school buses is at or below the total cost of ownership of diesel school buses, school districts may only receive reimbursement for the purchase of zero emission school buses and may only contract with pupil transportation service providers that use zero emission school buses. The House of Representatives will now consider whether to concur or reject the Senate's amendments.

**Clean Buildings:** [House Bill 1976](#), sponsored by Representative Mary Fosse (D-38th LD), relates to changing the incentive structure for tier 1 and tier 2 buildings. The Department of Commerce may provide incentives greater than the base incentive payment for upgrading tier 1 and tier 2 buildings under the Early Adoption Incentive Program. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

***Bills that Failed to Meet Cutoff Deadlines:***

***Extended Producer Responsibility:*** [House Bill 2049](#), sponsored by Representative Liz Berry (D-36th LD), requires producers of certain paper products and packaging to participate in and fund the operations of a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) to collect and manage covered products from consumers. The bill did not pass out of the House of Representatives prior to the chamber-of-origin cutoff deadline and is no longer under consideration this session.



**SAFETY:**

**Fentanyl Education:** [House Bill 1956](#), sponsored by Representative Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), directs the Secretary of Health to develop, implement, and maintain a statewide drug overdose prevention awareness campaign. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is required to develop, update, and distribute substance use prevention and awareness materials to schools. The House of Representatives approved the bill. The Senate approved and further amended the bill to remove the expiration date for the education and awareness campaign and directs the Department of Health to identify measurable benchmarks to determine the effectiveness of the campaign and make recommendations for continuation or modification of the campaign. The House of Representatives will now consider whether to concur with or reject the Senate's amendments.

**Opioid Overdose Reversal Medication in Schools:** [Senate Bill 5804](#), sponsored by Senator Patty Kuderer (D-48th LD), requires all schools to carry one set of opioid overdose reversal medication and adopt related policies. Reversal medication must be added to each school's first aid kit, and it instructs schools to include at least one location of the medication on the school's emergency map. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Opioid Prevention Education:** [House Bill 2112](#), sponsored by Representative Greg Nance (D-23rd LD), requires public and private institutes of higher education to provide opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information to students. Higher education institutions must also provide naloxone and fentanyl strips, along with training for staff and residence halls on usage. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Basic Law Enforcement Academy:** [Senate Bill 6301](#), sponsored by Senator John Lovick (D-44th LD), allows the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) to accept donated money or properties to fund the Basic Law Enforcement Academy. The Senate approved the bill. The House of Representatives approved an amended version of the bill that allows the CJTC to accept donations for their statutory purposes and not just to fund the Basic Law Enforcement Academy. The Senate will now need to consider whether to concur with or reject the House of Representative's amendments.

**Catalytic Converter Theft:** [House Bill 2153](#), sponsored by Representative Cindy Ryu (D-32nd LD), deters the theft of catalytic converters by establishing new felony and gross misdemeanor crimes for trafficking, processing, selling, or offering to sell stolen catalytic converters. To determine if selling a catalytic converter is stolen or not, VIN numbers can be written on catalytic converters before a legal sale if the buyer requests it. The House of Representatives approved the bill, and the Senate approved and further amended the bill. The Senate amendment expands the violations subject to a civil penalty, if not criminally charged, to include all violations



of the scrap metal statute. The House of Representatives will now have to concur with or reject the Senate's amendment.

**Electric Vehicle Fires:** [Senate Bill 5812](#), sponsored by Senator Jeff Wilson (R-19th LD), directs the Washington State Patrol to work with the Department of Ecology to conduct a study on electric vehicle fires. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Hog-tying prohibition:** [Senate Bill 6009](#), sponsored by Senator Yasmin Trudeau (D-27th LD), prohibits law enforcement officers from hog-tying an individual and makes hog-tying a form of excessive force. The bill, as approved by the Senate, defines the term hog-tying to mean fastening together bound or restrained ankles to bound or restrained wrists. The use of a product or device that does not require fastening together bound or restrained ankles to bound or restrained wrists is not a hog-tie or hog-tying. The House of Representatives approved and further amended the bill to clarify that prohibitions on hog-tying shall not be interpreted to prohibit the use of any other alternative restraint product or device that is used to reduce respiratory fatigue or positional asphyxia if such product or device does not violate the prohibitions on hog-tying. The Senate now needs to concur with or reject the House of Representative's amendment.

**Firearm Sensitive Places:** [Senate Bill 5444](#), sponsored by Senator Javier Valdez (D-46th LD), makes it a gross misdemeanor for a person to knowingly possess a firearm in certain public locations. The original bill included a lengthy list of locations, such as zoos, public libraries, parks, and state and local public buildings. However, the Senate narrowed the bill to only include libraries, zoos, aquariums, and transit facilities (parks and state and local public buildings were removed). The House of Representatives approved and further amended the bill to clarify that transit stations do not include transit vehicles.

**Law Enforcement Hiring:** [House Bill 1530](#), sponsored by Representative Julio Cortes (D-38th LD), allows law enforcement agencies to hire lawful permanent residents. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law. Similarly, [Senate Bill 5424](#), sponsored by Senator John Lovick (D-44th LD), allows law enforcement officers to work part-time hours. Both chambers have approved the bill; however, the Senate needs to concur in technical amendments made by the House of Representatives.

***Bills that Failed to Meet Cutoff Deadlines:***

***Attorney General Enforcement of Law Enforcement Agencies:*** *The 2023 Legislature considered but did not pass [House Bill 1445](#), sponsored by former Representative (now Senator) Drew Hansen (D-23rd LD), authorizing the Attorney General to investigate and bring actions against law enforcement and corrections agencies for violations of the Constitution or state law, and requires the Attorney General to develop and publish*



*model policies in consultation with various agencies and entities. The bill did not make it out of the House Rules Committee prior to the chamber-of-origin cutoff deadline and is no longer under consideration.*

**Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) Training Reimbursement:** [Senate Bill 6242](#), sponsored by Senator Mark Mullet (D-8th LD), removes the requirement for local law enforcement agencies to reimburse the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) for 25 percent of training costs for officers. While the bill was approved by the Senate, it stalled in the House Appropriations Committee and is no longer under consideration this session.

**Eluding Police Vehicle Penalties:** [House Bill 2390](#), sponsored by Representative Clyde Shavers (D-10th LD), and [Senate Bill 6200](#), sponsored by Senator John Lovick (D-44th LD), would have allowed a vehicle used to evade arrest to be impounded. If the individual has previously had a vehicle impounded for the same reason, the vehicle is subject to forfeiture. If a person is charged with attempting to elude a police vehicle, the court is authorized to require the individual to use an electronic monitoring device. Neither chamber approved the bill prior to the chamber-of-origin cutoff deadline and are no longer under consideration this session.

**Jay Walking:** [Senate Bill 5383](#), sponsored by Senator Rebecca Saldaña (D-37th LD), prohibits law enforcement officers from enforcing state or local laws related to jay-walking unless the pedestrian suddenly leaves a curb or place of safety to move into the path of a vehicle so that it is impossible for the driver to stop. The Senate chose not to approve the bill prior to the chamber-of-origin cutoff deadline and it is no longer under consideration this session.

## **TRANSPORTATION:**

**Automated Traffic Safety Cameras:** [House Bill 2384](#), sponsored by Representative Brandy Donaghy (D-44th LD), allows cities and counties expanded authority to use automated traffic safety cameras (school zone cameras, red-light cameras, speed cameras, and bus lane enforcement cameras) and allows cities and counties to retain all the revenue generated from those cameras; current law only allows cities to receive 50 percent of revenue generated from speed cameras. Revenues generated from the cameras must be used for traffic safety purposes, and a proportionate share of the revenue must be spent in census tracts with household incomes in the lowest quartile and in areas that experience above average rates of injury crashes. Cities currently utilizing revenue from red-light cameras and school-zone cameras are exempt from this requirement and may continue to spend revenue consistent with purposes outlined in an existing ordinance. Additionally, to review traffic camera violations an employee must be a civilian employee who works for the law enforcement agency, public works or transportation department, and must be sufficiently trained and certified by peace officers or



traffic engineers. The House of Representatives approved the bill. The Senate further amended and approved the bill. The Senate's amendments require cities and counties under 10,000 in population to use the Department of Health disparities map when making traffic safety activity investments and further refines language reducing the traffic infraction amount for individuals receiving public assistance. The House of Representatives will now need to concur with or reject the Senate amendments.

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT:**

**Lunar New Year:** [House Bill 2209](#), sponsored by Representative My-Linh Thai (D-41st LD), designates the Lunar New Year as a legislatively recognized day. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Public comment notice:** [House Bill 1105](#), sponsored by Representative Shelley Kloba (D-1st LD), requires that whenever a public agency is mandated by law to provide notice that it is soliciting written public comment, the notice must specify the last date by which such public comment must be submitted. A public agency that violates the public comment notice requirements is subject to a civil penalty of \$500 for the first violation and \$1,000 for any subsequent violation, but no member of the agency is personally liable for a violation. Public agencies are required to specify the first date and time by which written public comment can be submitted. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

**Tax Increment Financing:** [House Bill 2354](#), sponsored by Representative Chipalo Street (D-37th LD), requires local governments to conduct a project analysis prior to establishing a tax increment area to assess impacts on local emergency medical and public hospital services. It also requires mitigation agreements between local governments and public hospital districts. The House of Representatives approved the bill. The Senate approved and further amended the bill to clarify that the mitigation assessment is limited to fire, hospital, and emergency services. The House of Representatives will now need to concur with or reject the Senate amendments.

**Property Tax Levies:** [House Bill 2044](#), sponsored by Representative Davina Duerr (D-1st LD), eliminates a non-supplant restriction applicable to local government taxing districts located in a county with a population of 1.5 million or more. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have approved the bill, and it has been delivered to the Governor to be signed into law.

### ***Bills that Failed to Meet Cutoff Deadlines:***

***1% Property Tax Cap:*** *The Senate Ways & Means Committee approved an amended version of [Senate Bill 5770](#), sponsored by Senator Jamie Pedersen (D-43rd LD), that removes the 1 percent cap on property tax levy growth and ties it to inflation, capped at*





3 percent. The bill did not get voted out prior to the fiscal cutoff and will not proceed this session.

**Public Records Portal:** [Senate Bill 6232](#), sponsored by Senator Jeff Wilson (R-19th LD), creates a pilot program for a public records request portal and directs the Joint Legislative Audit Review Committee (JLARC) to find a suitable agency to run the pilot project, and to deliver the final report on the pilot project. The bill did not advance out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee and is no longer under consideration.