



DATE: November 23, 2020

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

FROM: Joyce Nichols, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, 452-4225  
*City Manager's Office*

## **REGIONAL ISSUES UPDATES**

Tonight's packet includes written updates on activities at the federal, state, regional and local government levels. No formal presentations are scheduled.

## **LEGISLATIVE STATUS REPORTS**

**State Legislative Session Update:** Staff has provided a written legislative update on recent activities in Olympia during the interim regarding Bellevue's interests and priorities. The 2021 session of the state legislature is scheduled to begin January 13 and is a "long" session, lasting 105 days. The 2021 session will be conducted in a nearly all-virtual format as a result of the restrictions on in-person meetings given the COVID-19 pandemic. This format will pose some challenges as well as some opportunities for the City to communicate its key issues and interests with legislators. Included in tonight's update is a summary of the results of the November 3 General Election and its impact on the make-up of the state legislature. Staff is finalizing a draft legislative agenda for Council review that will lay out the City's interests and priorities for the coming session.

**Federal Legislative Update:** Staff has provided a written update on recent activities at the federal level covering Congress and the Administration. The results of the November 3 General Election will see a transition at the federal level to a new presidential administration. House and Senate leaders have a daunting agenda to prevent a government shutdown unless it passes a budget or a continuing resolution to fund the federal agencies. Additionally, the two chambers need to come to terms on a package to provide another round of stimulus funding from the federal government to help stabilize the economy and provide much-needed assistance to individuals, businesses and state and local governments in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **STAFF REPORTS / INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Monthly Council Summary Background Briefings:** Included are updated summary background briefings on the King County Regional Committees (RWQC only this month), the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), the King County Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC), the Affordable Housing Committee—a subcommittee of the GMPC implementing the recommendations of the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force, and the King County Flood Control District.