



## **CITY OF KIRKLAND 2011 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

### **General Principles**

Kirkland supports legislation that promotes the City Council's goals and protects the City's ability to provide basic municipal services to its citizens.

- Protect current revenue sources available to the City, provide new revenue options and provide flexibility in the use of existing revenues.
- Support the City's ability to complete the annexation of Finn Hill, Juanita and Kingsgate through continued appropriation of state funds and legislation that facilitates the cost effective transition of services.
- Support long-term sustainability efforts related to City financial, environmental and transportation goals.

### **City of Kirkland 2011 Legislative Priorities**

1. Kirkland opposes the imposition of new mandates that draw on City resources and oppose any further shifting of costs or services from the State or County to cities.
2. Kirkland supports legislation that secures financial assistance for the construction of the Public Safety Building required to consolidate public safety services and adequately serve the City after annexation.
3. Kirkland supports legislation that allows flexibility in the use of Real Estate Excise Tax revenue for infrastructure and parks maintenance.
4. Kirkland supports legislation that provides financial relief for annexation census requirements through the ability to use alternate enumeration methods such as the federal census.
5. Kirkland supports legislation for roadway pricing tools that provides funding for high priority transportation routes, promotes multi-modal transportation modes and mitigates collateral impacts on Kirkland's arterials.
6. Kirkland supports preservation of all options for future use of the BNSF corridor and state financial assistance to implement multiple uses including recreation and transportation.
7. Kirkland supports legislation that provides cities with new and improved financing tools to support public/private partnerships including flexibility in the use of existing tax sources to support new development and to facilitate small business growth through the use of microloans.
8. Kirkland supports legislation that streamlines the SEPA process and eliminates duplicate and overlapping requirements of growth management and SEPA.

9. Kirkland supports legislation that supports the principles of growth management by assigning funding priority for infrastructure in communities with designated urban centers.
10. Kirkland supports legislation amending RCW 82.02.060 to eliminate cities' obligation to pay impact fees from qualifying public funds when exempting low-income housing from impact fee requirements.
11. Kirkland supports legislation to allow cities the same fire benefit charge authority that fire districts receive under RCW 52.18.010.

### **2011 Legislative Support**

Kirkland supports selected items of the 2011 legislative agendas for the following organizations:

#### **Association of Washington Cities**

- Provide flexibility within current revenue and regulatory frameworks to respond to these challenging times
  - City fiscal flexibility package, such as greater flexibility in the expenditure of locally collected real estate excise tax (REET).
  - Fund, Flex, Repeal, Amend, Pause (FFRAP), such as delaying adoption of new storm water regulations until the existing ones are successfully implemented and funded.
- Enact new tools to help cities recover, thrive and be efficient
  - Pro-active public record proposals that address some of the problems that come with the burgeoning public records requests.
  - Options for creating sustainable personnel related costs.
  - Additional tools for combating gang activity including funding for gang intervention and prevention activities.
  - Street maintenance utility authority.
- Maintain essential state revenues and authorities for cities
  - Ensure continued appropriation of committed state shared funds and preserve existing local revenue authorities.
  - Preserve infrastructure funding such as the Public Works Trust Fund and storm water funding.
  - Retain current authorities – neither add new requirements or take any away.

#### **Cascade Water Alliance**

- Clarify and improve the tools available to voluntarily provide utility services on a joint basis.

### **Eastside Human Services Forum**

- Maintain the current investment in home visiting funding and advocate for evidence-based home visiting programs such as Healthy Start by the federal government.
- Maintain current funding for Washington Information Network (2-1-1) and improve quality and accessibility of services.

### **Environmental Priorities Coalition**

- Budget Solutions for our Environment – Develop a proactive approach that will improve the economy while maintaining environmental protections.
- 2011 Clean Water Act/Working for Clean Water -- Fund job-creating projects across the state by building water infrastructure that will clean up our water ways.

### **Washington Fire Chiefs Association**

- Require simple majority elections (50% +1) for Emergency Medical Services levies and Benefit Charge elections.
- Provide funding for CBRNE/Funded Regional Hazardous Materials Teams.
- Mandate radio repeaters for use by emergency responders inside buildings larger than 10,000 square feet.
- Exempt major fire department capital equipment purchases from State sales tax or allow for some form of a rebate.

### **Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs**

- Burglar Alarm Program information protection – Amend RCW 42.56 to protect law enforcement false alarm program information from public disclosure that would compromise the security of properties.
- Require that red light cameras comport with federal standards and that fines are equalized.
- Increase penalties for vehicle prowl.

### **Washington Bicycle Alliance**

- Safe Routes to School – Protect existing funding and find ways to improve the program to better meet the demand created by schools.

### **Washington Recreation and Parks Association**

- Real Estate Excise Tax -- Provide local-option legislation allowing cities and counties to use up to 25 percent of the revenue from the two local 1/4-percent Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) collections to be used for maintenance and operations of parks and recreational facilities
- Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) – Support the request by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Council (WWRC), WRPA, and others to preserve a \$100 million 2011 Capital Budget funding level for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Grant program.

### **Washington Low Income Housing Alliance**

- Maintain the State's investment in Housing Trust Fund.

### **Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association**

- Create a funding mechanism for Planned Action EIS -- Amend RCW 82.02.020 to allow jurisdictions to impose a fee or charge on development for preparation of a Planned Action EIS.

### **WRIA 8**

- Funding – Support legislation to establish a sustainable funding mechanism to implement the Puget Sound Partnership agenda including funding for projects, programs, permitting and monitoring related to storm water pollution in Puget Sound and throughout Washington State.
- Authorize legislation for creation of multipurpose Watershed Districts.

### **Additional Legislation to Support**

- Support brown grease to energy conversion legislation and programs.
- Support modification of the Washington State Department of Licensing's (DOL) implementation of the Commercial Driver's License process.
- Support legislation providing for the safe collection and disposal of unwanted drugs from residential sources through a producer provided and funded product stewardship program.
- Support an amendment to RCW 46.68.090 that would allocate gas tax revenues between counties and cities based on a per capita allocation rather than the current fixed percentages.
- Support legislation that would allow cities access to the State Department of Labor and Industries data as a means of verifying local business tax payments.