



CITY OF KIRKLAND
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Lorrie McKay, Intergovernmental Relations Manager
Date: January 22, 2016
Subject: 2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE #2

RECOMMENDATION:

Council should receive its second update on the 2016 state legislative session

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

This memo reflects an update on the City's legislative interests as of January 22. At the writing of this memo, the legislature had concluded its second week of the 2016 State Legislative Session and the City's department staff were reviewing over 110 bills introduced since the beginning of session.

Council's Legislative Workgroup

The Council's Legislative Workgroup (Mayor Walen, Councilmember Asher and Councilmember Marchione) meets weekly throughout the session on Friday's at 3:30pm. The Legislative Workgroup met on January 22 to discuss the status of the City's 2016 legislative priorities. (Attachment A)

Status Summary of the City's 2016 legislative priorities

- New policies and funding tools to address homelessness and create more affordable housing:

Mayor Walen participated on a local government work session panel on Friday, January 15 in the House Finance Committee, to discuss and define the need for local option tools for financing affordable housing. (Attachment B).

([House Bill 2397](#)) Demolition Fee bill

This bill is being championed by ARCH and the City of Kirkland. The bill was heard Monday, January 18 in the Community Development, Housing and Tribal Affairs Committee. HB 2397 authorizes the governing body of a city to fix and impose a demolition fee for a city permit issued for the demolition of residential dwellings within the city. The bill requires the collected fees to be deposited in an affordable housing fund established by the city and used for affordable housing development. Councilmember Asher testified in support. The Builders and Realtors testified against. 2397 is currently scheduled for Executive Session on Tuesday, January 26.

([Senate Bill 6239](#) / [House Bill 2544](#)) Property tax exemption program for the preservation of housing

This bill is being championed by the City of Seattle. The bill focuses on more affordability at 50-60% of Area Median Income, and requires building housing to certain health and safety standards as well as keeping 25% of units affordable. The Senate version was heard Monday, January 18 in the Human Services, Mental Health and Housing Committee. Kirkland signed-in

in support. The House version was heard Tuesday, January 19 in the Community Development, Housing and Tribal Affairs Committee. The City of Kirkland signed-in in support. 2544 is currently scheduled for Executive Session on Tuesday, January 26.

REET 3 for affordable housing - Will not be introduced this session

(House Bill 2395) Fee on Condominium Conversions

This bill is being championed by ARCH. The bill was heard Monday, January 18 in the Community Development, Housing and Tribal Affairs Committee. HB 2395 authorizes the governing body of a city to fix and impose a conversion fee for the recording of a declaration of a conversion condominium. The bill requires the collected fees to be deposited in an affordable housing fund established by the city and used for affordable housing development. Councilmember Asher testified in support. The Builders and Realtors testified against this bill too. Respective lobbyists are talking. 2395 is currently scheduled for Executive Session on Tuesday, January 26.

(House Bill 2086) Prohibiting certain limitations on the hosting of the homeless by religious organizations

This bill was championed by local faith communities in 2015. Councilmember Marchione testified in support of it last session. The bill has not yet been scheduled for hearing this session.

(Senate Bill 6337 / House Bill 2647) Disposing tax foreclosed property to cities for affordable housing purposes

This bill is being championed by the City of Tacoma. The Senate version was heard Thursday, January 21 in the Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health and Housing Committee. The House version is scheduled for hearing on Tuesday, January 26. SB 6337 requires the county legislative authority to give notice to a city in which any tax foreclosed property is located within at least sixty days of acquiring the property and prohibits the county from disposing of the property at public auction or by private negotiation before giving the notice. The bill also requires the notice to offer the city the opportunity to purchase the property for the principal amount of the unpaid taxes, under certain conditions which include the city providing that the property is suitable and will be used for an affordable housing development and the city agreeing to transfer the property to a local housing authority or other nonprofit entity eligible to receive assistance from the affordable housing program.

(House Bill 2843) Supporting affordable housing

Provides a business and occupation tax credit and a public utility tax credit for approved contributions that are made by a person to the affordable housing account. Requires an application for tax credits to be made to the department of revenue before making a contribution to the affordable housing account. Creates the Washington affordable housing account. This bill was referred to the House Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs Committee. It has not yet been scheduled for hearing.

(House Bill 2799) Concerning the sale of manufactured/mobile home communities.

This bill was referred to the House Judiciary Committee. It has not yet been scheduled for hearing.

Women & Family Shelter – Capital Budget Request

Staff is working with ARCH to submit a joint Capital Budget funding request with the City of Bellevue for the Women's Shelter that the City of Kirkland is considering and the Men's Shelter that the City of Bellevue is considering.

- Capital budget funding for a multimodal safety improvement project connecting the Cross Kirkland Corridor with the Redmond Central Connector:
Both House and Senate capital budget request forms are completed and submitted.
- Allow both the state and local governments the option of replacing the property tax cap:
No update
- Facilitate greater access to rooftop residential and community solar installations by extending the timeframe for state solar incentives in the Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery program:
(House Bill 2346) Promoting a sustainable, local renewable energy industry through modifying renewable energy system tax incentives and providing guidance for renewable energy system component recycling. This bill is being championed by the Solar Industry of Washington (the installers). The bill resets the rates, ensures current payment to those customers already in, raises the cap and extends the program. The bill was heard Tuesday, January 12 in the Technology & Economic Development Committee. The City of Kirkland signed-in in support. 2346 is currently scheduled for Executive Session on Tuesday, January 26.
- Clarify records retention, disclosure, and use limitations of video and/or sound recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers:
(House Bill 2362) Concerning video and/or sound recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers. Representative Hansen (D-23rd LD) was the prime sponsor of a bill on this topic last session. Rep. Hansen has filed this new bill. 2362 would allow people involved in an incident to get the recorded footage. While others could get the redacted information version, they would have to pay for it. The bill has a provision to sunset in two years and creates a task force in the meantime. The bill was heard last week on Thursday in the House Judiciary Committee. The City of Kirkland signed-in in support. 2362 was moved out of committee on January 20 and referred to House Rules Committee on January 25.

Week 2 (1/18 – 1/24)

The primary focus in week 2

1. City's subject-matter expert review of bills dropped
2. Preparing for AWC Lobby Day 1/27-28
3. Work on capital budget request for shelter
4. Testified at hearing on Demo Fee bill and Condo Conversion bill
5. Signed-in at hearing in support of property tax exemption preservation bill

Week 3 (1/25 – 1/31)

The primary focus in week 3

1. City's subject-matter expert review of bills dropped
2. Participate in AWC Lobby Day 1/27-28

Hearings and Correspondence

Bill	Short Title	Cmte	Dt/Time	Notes
HB 2647:	Disposing tax foreclosed property to cities	CDHTA	1/26 @ 1:30	Sign-In Only
HB 2576:	Public records act requests to local agencies	HLG	1/28 @ 1:30	TBD

Cmte (Committee) Legend

CDHTA = House Committee on Community Development, Housing and Tribal Affairs

HLG = House Local Government Committee

Correspondence

None – as of the writing of this memo

Bills of Concern

Senate Bill 6115, Limiting tax imposed by a city on a water / sewer distribution; water / sewerage system business. This bill is sponsored was filed at the close of the 2015 regular session and was not given a hearing. SB 6115 was heard on Monday, January 18 in Senate Government Operations. The bill proposes that no city or town may impose a tax on water or sewer at a rate that exceeds six percent... unless the rate is first approved by a majority of the voters of the city... AND, if a city or town is imposing a rate of tax ... in excess of six percent, the city or town must decrease the rate to a rate of six percent or less by reducing the rate each year... Last year, staff raised immediate concerns and recommended the City strongly oppose this bill. Staff remain extremely concerned about the general fund impact of this legislation and maintain strong opposition to SB 6115.

- ✓ Kirkland's rates (that would go to 6%) are currently set at 10.5% (sewer) and 13.36% (water)
- ✓ The impact to the Kirkland General Fund would be over \$9.8 million over 10 years, reaching \$2 million per year by the 10th year.
- ✓ This would be a direct hit to the General Fund, which is also facing the elimination of the annexation sales tax credit in 2021.
- ✓ The proposal is also very bad for border cities who have high utility taxes because of low sales tax.
- ✓ The analysis above does not include surface water utility taxes (currently 7.5%), which may fall under this bill.

2016 Session Cutoff Calendar

The legislature's adopted cutoff calendar for 2016 is attached (Attachment C). The first significant cutoff to note is February 17, which is the last day to consider (pass) bills in the house of origin (5 p.m.).

BILL TRACKING AND THE BILL TRACKER:

Kirkland's Legislative Review Process

Proposed legislative bills are introduced daily in the Senate, the House, or both through the first cut-off, which is anticipated in mid-February. The City's state legislative advocacy consultant flags and forwards relevant bills to intergovernmental staff for review with department(s) and subject-matter experts in an effort to determine potential impacts to the City. This process also includes staff making an initial recommendation on City's position (Support/Oppose/Neutral) on a given bill. Intergovernmental staff then bring bills, reports and recommendations to the Council's Legislative Workgroup for consideration, discussion and validation of staff recommendations. The Legislative Workgroup's decisions are guided by the legislative agenda's general principles, as well as the City Council's Goals. Intergovernmental staff then communicate the City's position on bills to out legislative lobbyist, Council Members and Department Directors.

DRAFT SUPPORT ITEMS AGENDA:

At its January 19 meeting, Council moved and adopted the DRAFT 2016 Support Item Agenda with one edit, and with the understanding that additional support items, identified as 2016 priorities by the City's ally organizations, would be included in this version.

The requested edit was to remove the Transportation Choices Coalition's priority of opposing SB 6152 and HB 2312, modifying the operation of the Interstate 405 express toll lanes.

For Council's consideration on the 2016 Support Item Agenda, staff received 2016 legislative priorities from the following ally organizations:

- Eastside Human Services Forum
- Washington Low-Income Housing Alliance
- All Home
- Faith Action Network

- Attachments:
- A. City's adopted 2016 Legislative Priorities
 - B. Mayor's remarks on the need for local option tools for financing affordable housing
 - C. 2016 Session Cutoff Calendar
 - D. Eastside Human Services Forum 2016 Legislative Priorities
 - E. Washington Low-Income Housing Alliance 2016 Legislative Priorities
 - F. All Home 2016 Legislative Priorities
 - G. Faith Action Network 2016 Legislative Priorities
 - H. Proposed (Annotated and REDLINE version) 2016 Legislative Support Items Agenda
 - I. 2016 Legislative Support Items Agenda

2016 Legislative Priorities and Status – City of Kirkland
Updated: January 22, 2016

Legislative Priority	Bill #	Prime Sponsor	Status
<p>New policies and funding tools to address homelessness and create more affordable housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prop tax exemption for preservation of affordable housing • Demolition Fee bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encampments • Fee on condominium conversions • Disposing tax foreclosed property to cities for affordable hsg. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sale of manufactured/mobile home communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting affordable housing – (B&O) • Capital Budget Request for Women’s Shelter 	<p>SB 6239 /HB 2544 HB 2397 HB 2086 HB 2395 SB 6337 /2647 HB 2843 HB 2799</p>	<p>Sen Fain Rep. Frame Rep. McBride Rep. McBride Rep. McBride Sen. Darnielle Rep. Jinkins Rep. McBride Rep. McBride Rep. Tharinger</p>	<p>1/18 – 10am hearing in Sen Human Svcs and Mental Hlth & Hsg 1/19 – 1:30 hearing in Comm. Dev, Housing & Tribal Affairs 1/18 – 1:30 hearing in Comm. Dev, Housing & Tribal Affairs 1/11 – By resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status 1/18 – 1:30 hearing in Comm. Dev, Housing & Tribal Affairs 1/21 – 10a hearing in Sen Human Svcs and Mental Hlth & Hsg 1/26 – 1:30 hearing in Comm. Dev, Housing & Tribal Affairs 1/22 – Referred to Comm. Dev, Housing & Tribal Affairs 1/20 – Referred to Judiciary 1/21 - House project funding request form completed</p>
<p>Capital budget funding for a multimodal safety improvement project connecting the Cross Kirkland Corridor with the Redmond Central Connector.</p>		<p>Rep. Tharinger Sen. Honeyford</p>	<p>House project funding request form revised & completed Senate project funding request form completed</p>
<p>Allow both the state and local governments the option of replacing the property tax cap, currently fixed at 1 percent, with a cap that is indexed to both population growth and inflation.</p>			
<p>Facilitate greater access to rooftop residential and community solar installations by extending the timeframe for state solar incentives in the Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery program.</p>	<p>HB 2346</p>	<p>Rep. Morris</p>	<p>1/12 – 10am hearing in House Technology & Economic Development 1/26 – Scheduled for Exec Session</p>
<p>Clarify records retention, disclosure, and use limitations of video and/or sound recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers.</p>	<p>HB 2362</p>	<p>Rep. Hansen</p>	<p>1/14 – 1:30pm hearing in House Judiciary 1/20 – Executive Action taken</p>

* No HIGHLIGHTS = No change in status from last update.

Public Comments
House Finance Committee - Work Session
Local options for financing affordable housing for low-income individuals
January 15, 2016

Amy Walen, Mayor, City of Kirkland

Chair Lytton and members of the committee, I am Amy Walen and I am the Mayor of the City of Kirkland. I am so pleased you are doing this work session today on local options for financing affordable housing. We need your help and your partnership.

Other presenters today will speak eloquently to the critical need to provide more housing for the homeless, seniors, those with special needs, and those in poverty. Two of our local churches are funding a temporary day center for dozens of homeless families and children who need immediate housing. Kirkland is working with them to site a permanent women's shelter in our City. This is just one immediate example of the need we face for vulnerable populations. But as the owner of Ford and Hyundai of Kirkland, I want to draw your attention to yet another reason we need affordable housing. One common solution to poverty is to create jobs and economic opportunity. Yet often that job creation itself makes the housing gap even wider. Washington's tax system incentivizes cities to pursue economic development strategies that provide retail sales tax such as big box stores or car dealerships such as mine. These developments provide jurisdictions with precious tax revenue and create hundreds of jobs. But very few of those jobs pay enough to live in cities such as Seattle, Bellevue, Redmond or Kirkland. Instead these employees clog our freeways with traffic as they commute from other

Counties. We all want the people who work in our Cities to be able to live there, and that means we need more affordable housing options. We are fortunate that our surrounding communities also share these goals and we have a regional entity called ARCH – A Regional Coalition for Housing – that East King County Cities and King County contribute to in order to address our affordable housing needs.

In Kirkland we have increased our general fund contribution to ARCH for the last five years. ARCH produced about 180 units per year in its first ten years, but has produced only about 100 units per year for the last 10. While the funds dedicated to housing slightly increased, the buying power has plummeted. We have the mechanism through ARCH to create affordable housing. We have wonderful community partners in non-profits like Hopelink and our local churches who can and want to create more housing. We simply need more resources to meet the demand.

You may have seen a recent Seattle Times article about the tear down of smaller, older homes for the creation of much larger, expensive single family homes. In Kirkland single ramblers are being replaced by 3 and 4 luxury homes through short plats. While we are fortunate in Kirkland that many people are affluent, this trend is rapidly removing affordable housing stock.

Given these dynamics, the ARCH board spent the past year looking at possible new local funding options for housing. One is a demolition fee designed after a program in the City

of Highland Park in Illinois. This would allow a fee on a full demolition of a house and put that into a fund for low-income housing. If we had had that tool, over the past two years Kirkland would have another \$1 million to contribute to ARCH to address our regional low-income housing need.

There are some, and you may hear from them today, who are concerned with any local options that are tied to the housing industry or real estate market. We understand their concerns and believe that they too understand the overall problem we face and want to help solve the problem. We are not tied to that solution – we simply need a solution and we need it right away. So if there are other tools you would prefer to grant us, we would happily use them!

Madame Chair, I would add that we absolutely support the state Housing Trust Fund and all our local partners rely on that along with federal tax credits that come through the Housing Finance Commission. Our local churches and non-profits also bring private resources to the table. We hope you can grant us the authority to do more at the City level so we can help addressing this growing problem and meet the needs of our residents and businesses. Thank you.



2016 Session Cutoff Calendar

January 11, 2016	First Day of Session
February 5, 2016	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) in house of origin, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
February 9, 2016	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees in house of origin.
February 17, 2016	Last day to consider (pass) bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).
February 26, 2016	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
February 29, 2016	Last day to read in opposite house committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
March 4, 2016*	Last day to consider (pass) opposite house bills (5 p.m.) (except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session).
March 10, 2016	Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

* After the 54th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.



Eastside Human Services Forum: 2016 State Legislative Agenda

The Eastside Human Services Forum strongly urges elected officials to go beyond the scope of maintaining current funding levels for human services. Instead, EHSF advocates for solutions that strengthen and grow the system of diverse and integrated services required for our communities to thrive.

Together, the following priorities form a foundational web of support to ensure healthy outcomes for all East King County residents: **Basic Needs, Making Homelessness Rare, Brief and One-Time, Older Adults and People with Disabilities, and Early Learning and Youth Programs.**

SUPPORT ACCESS TO BASIC NEEDS AND HEALTH SERVICES

- Allocate additional resources for behavior health, including mental health and substance abuse.
- Enact legislation implementing **Family and Medical Leave Insurance**.
- Provide **Universal Health Care Coverage** for those who do not meet ACA requirements.
- Restore the remaining 6% of the 15% that was cut **from TANF** in 2011 and provide investments to support the most vulnerable individuals and families.

MAKE HOMELESSNESS RARE, BRIEF AND ONE-TIME

- Preserve funding for the **Housing and Essential Needs Program** and invest in the **Washington Youth and Families Fund**.
- Protect low-income tenants by enacting statewide **Source of Income Discrimination** protections and passing **Truth in Evictions** legislation;
- Provide other options, including funding tools, to help jurisdictions add affordable housing units; Increase funding for the **Housing Trust Fund**

SUPPORT THE MOST VULNERABLE OLDER ADULTS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

- Enact a **Medicaid Adult Hearing Hardware Benefit** to cover hearing aids, cochlear implants, necessary supplies and related services;
- Equip family caregivers by passing the **CARE Act**;
- Increase support for services that enable adults to remain in the homes and in the community by increasing funding to the **Senior Citizen's Services Act, Adult Day Health and Family Caregiver Support** programs and case management programs;

STRENGTHEN EARLY LEARNING AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

- Expand **Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)** slots by ⁶⁵⁰1,000.
- Return **Behavioral Rehabilitation Services** to the Revenue Forecast portion of the budget, and restore reimbursement rates *for child placing agencies foster care*.

The Eastside Human Services Forum fosters strong public and private partnerships for a stable network of health and human services for the benefit of all East King County residents. For more information about EHSF's mission and efforts, please visit www.eastsideforum.org.

Adopted 1.20.2016



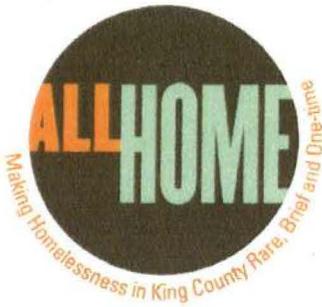
Washington Low Income Housing Alliance 2016 state legislative agenda

2016 Issue Item	Description
Fund Affordable Housing	<p>The Housing Trust Fund awards state funds on a competitive basis to build affordable homes. The majority of the homes built with HTF dollars house extremely low-income households, including people with disabilities, seniors, families with children exiting homelessness and more.</p>
Allow more local options for affordable housing funding	<p>Allow local government to enact a new Real Estate Excise Tax or "REET" to fund affordable housing development. A small tax on real estate transactions can provide significant resources for affordable housing development and local government should be able to add this option to their affordable housing toolkit.</p>
Defend and Protect our state's Disability Lifeline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and Essential Needs, • Aged, Blind and Disabled income support, • SSI Facilitation Services and, • Medical Care Services for elderly and low-income immigrants. 	<p>Disability Lifeline programs include key safety-net services that prevent and end homeless by reaching very low-income adults with disabilities that incapacitate them from work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and Essential Needs = rental assistance for adults with a temporary disability. • Aged, Blind and Disabled = cash support (\$197/month) for adults with a permanent disability. • SSI Facilitation Services = DSHS administered services to assist permanently disabled adults receiving ABD cash to apply for SSI benefits. • Medical Care Services = Health coverage for immigrants who are elderly and disabled with legally verified immigration status.
Implement a new Medicaid benefit for the services delivered in Permanent Supportive Housing	<p>The State Health Care Authority and DSHS have asked the federal government to grant a waiver to the state that will allow it to use state and federal Medicaid funds for the services delivered in permanent supportive housing.</p> <p>Permanent supportive housing ends chronic homelessness by housing people with</p>

2016 Issue Item	Description
	<p>significant barriers. The services delivered are key to keeping people housed and to improving health outcomes.</p> <p>The Health Care Authority submitted an 1115 waiver request in August 2015. The state may have to take further action to implement the benefit if approved by the federal government.</p>
<p>Prohibit discrimination based on a renter's participation in a government assistance program.</p>	<p>Tenants who are elderly, disabled, single-parents or people of color all disproportionately rely on government assistance. Currently, landlords can refuse housing, even if these tenants can pay the rent.</p> <p>The state should follow the lead of many local jurisdictions in Washington and ban discrimination. Vancouver, Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland, Seattle and unincorporated King County already provide this protection, but tenants in every part of the state need it as well.</p> <p>HB 1565/Ormsby & SB 5378/Kohl Welles* *Senator Jayapal will be senate lead in 2016.</p>
<p>Pass the Fairness in Eviction Reporting Act</p>	<p>Most landlords refuse to consider renting to tenants with an eviction associated with their name. But not all evictions are equal and tenant screening companies report all eviction filings as if the tenant had lost in court. A tenant who wins in eviction court has the same record as a tenant who lost - even if the tenant was wrongfully sued.</p> <p>HB 1460/Robinson & SB 5376/Habib</p>
<p>Pass the Fair Tenant Screening Act</p>	<p>Tenants pay over and over again for the same tenant screening report, which significantly adds to the already high cost of finding housing. Tenants should be allowed to purchase just one comprehensive report which the tenant screening company allows the landlord to access. This would eliminate a significant barrier to housing while ensuring that landlords have timely access to high quality reports.</p> <p>HB 1257/Walkinshaw & SB 5123/Frocket</p>

2016 Issue Item	Description
<p>Allow local jurisdictions to require 90-day notices of significant rent increases and to improve local options for relocation assistance.</p>	<p>Local government should be able to ensure that tenants receive more than 30 days notice for rent increases and should be able to ensure that landlords comply with local relocations assistance ordinances. A fix is needed on the state level to clarify the local options allowed to city government.</p> <p>HB 2051/Farrell & SB 5377/Kohl Welles</p>

Contact Michele Thomas at the Housing Alliance with any questions:
Michele@WLIHA.org or 206-442-9455 X 205
www.wliha.org



2016 State Legislative Priorities

The Coordinating Board Executive Committee approved these priorities on January 6th. As approved by the Coordinating Board, All Home staff has established a Policy Subcommittee to identify action steps and opportunities to move these items forward and to establish local policy priorities.

Revenue

Fund the Washington State Housing Trust Fund

Key partners: WLIHA, HDC

Objective: To maintain or increase state funding for building homeless and affordable housing.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 1.2 – Advocate and support partners to preserve existing and create more affordable housing,
- 2.5 – Increase access to permanent housing

King County depends on state HTF to help fill the equity gap in every affordable and homeless housing investment we make. Increasing the HTF expands the impact of King County housing funds resulting in more homeless and affordable housing units built. Historically, King County developments have received up to 40 percent of HTF funds. For every \$10 million invested in the HTF, up to \$4 million can be invested within King County. When partnered with King County and other public and private funds, it is estimated that such investment would help build up to 67 homes of homeless and affordable housing serving 100 residents each year for at least 40 years.

Preserve the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Program

Key partners: WLIHA, SKCCH

Objective: Preserve, improve and sustain HEN assistance.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

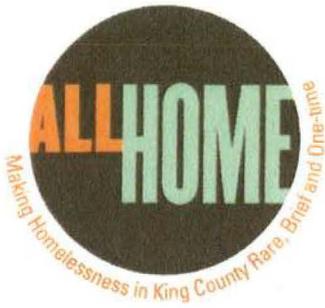
- 1.1 – Advocate and align systems to prevent people from experiencing homelessness

Hold harmless HEN assistance (funded at \$59 million in previous budgets), the Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABD) cash grant program, and SSI Facilitation Services. Improve the program by removing the current restriction on chemical dependency as primary disability; increasing ABD cash grant and/or; allowing ABD recipients to retain their HEN benefit for an extended period of time.

Support new local financing options through Real Estate Excise Tax for Housing (REET)

Key partners: City of Seattle OH, WLIHA, HDC, Futurewise

Objective: Provide new local financing options to supplement existing tools to invest in affordable housing.



2016 State Legislative Priorities

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 1.2 - Advocate and support partners to preserve existing and create more affordable housing,
- 2.5 - Increase access to permanent housing

Add a new chapter to RCW 82.46 that would allow a city (planning under the Growth Management Act), via council action, to impose an additional Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) specifically for affordable housing. The additional .25% REET capacity, above and beyond the existing State cap, will allow local jurisdictions to make public investments in affordable housing. REET offers an opportunity to re-capture a portion of that value upon the transfer of property and reinvest it in critical affordable housing infrastructure.

Address shortfall in Consolidated Homeless Grant funding

Key partners: King County, WLIHA

Objective: Backfill the \$8 million dollar shortfall in funding for Consolidated Homeless Grants which support local communities to fund services that prevent and end homelessness.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 1.1 – Advocate and align systems to prevent people from experiencing homelessness,
- 1.2 - Advocate and support partners to preserve existing and create more affordable housing,
- 2.1 – Address crisis as quickly as possible,
- 2.3 – Assess, divert, prioritize, and match people with housing and supports,
- 2.4 – Right-size housing and supports to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness,
- 2.5 - Increase access to permanent housing

The Consolidated Homeless Grant provides support to local communities to fund services that prevent and end homelessness. There is an \$8 million dollar shortfall in funding that is forcing counties to significantly reduce services and implement cuts. The state should backfill this shortfall with one-time allocation out of the Operating Budget.

HOPE Beds and Street Youth Services

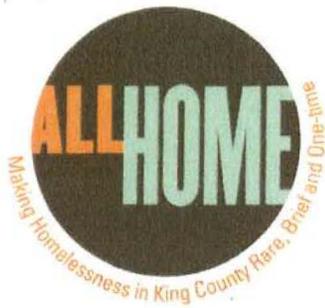
Key partner: The Mockingbird Society, WACHYA

Objective: Increase funding for HOPE Beds to provide emergency shelter for minors and provide adequate outreach to ensure youth know about these resources.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 2.1 – Address crisis as quickly as possible

There are only 23 HOPE beds in Washington State – the only self-refer emergency shelter beds for minors in the state, though the 1999 HOPE Act authorized up to 75 beds. There are many communities with no HOPE beds at all, forcing runaway minors to travel to an area with shelter, couch surf, or sleep outside, all



2016 State Legislative Priorities

of which increases their vulnerability to violence, sexual exploitation, and chemical dependency. We would like to see additional HOPE beds in communities with no safe shelter options and Street Youth Services funding to provide outreach and engagement services to ensure youth know about these new resources.

Policy

Preservation Tax Exemption

Key partner: City of Seattle, Office of Housing, HDC

Objective: Prevent displacement, keep rents affordable in areas where rent is rising quickly, improve housing health and quality, and preserve affordability.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 1.2 - Advocate and support partners to preserve existing and create more affordable housing,
- 2.5 - Increase access to permanent housing

Under a Preservation Tax Exemption program, local jurisdictions would have the option to provide a targeted property tax exemption to existing property owners who agree to restrict rents and income-eligibility for a portion of units within their properties for a minimum period of time. By adding a new chapter to RCW 84.14, the Legislature can provide cities with a critical tool to create affordable homes, prevent displacement, and improve housing quality for Washington families.

In many communities across Washington, older private market housing provides the most affordable unsubsidized housing option for low income households. But in some cases, these buildings are in poor condition and owners fund improvements with increased rents, displacing long-term tenants. In other communities, the rents in older buildings are still out of reach for low wage working families. A property tax exemption would be an effective tool for motivating private landlords to preserve and create affordability in existing housing, while also ensuring that high quality, healthy housing is available to those who need it most.

Youth Consent

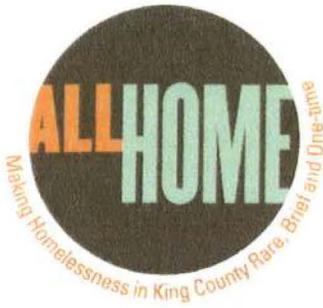
Key partners: United Way, King County

Objective: Allow youth under 18 to consent to participating in HMIS, providing greater capacity to understand the needs of youth and young adults in our system.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 2.4 - Right-size housing and supports to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness

Amend legislation to address a recent Attorney General ruling to re-allow young people under 18 to consent to having their information included in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS),



2016 State Legislative Priorities

mirroring RCW provisions allowing minors to consent to mental health treatment. With youth under 18 not having the ability to consent to participating in HMIS, our community has no capacity to understand the needs of youth and young adults in our system. Data included in HMIS with youth consent would provide information about which youth and young adults in child welfare are showing up in the homeless youth system. Inclusion of this data would also allow for better understanding of the effectiveness of under 18 interventions on preventing youth homelessness.

Improve Data Collection and Protection

Objective: Preserve McKinney funding (\$39 million in WA State), by improving our statewide compliance with federal Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) standards.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

2.4 - Right-size housing and supports to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness

Improve data protection practices while improving participation rates, compliance with federal data quality requirements, and performance of emerging coordinated entry systems. This amendment would improve data collection and reinforce improved informed consent and accountability for those collecting data.

Certificate of Restoration

Key partners: Partners for Our Children, SPAN

Objective: Reduce barriers to housing and employment for those exiting the criminal justice system through creation of a Certificate of Restoration.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

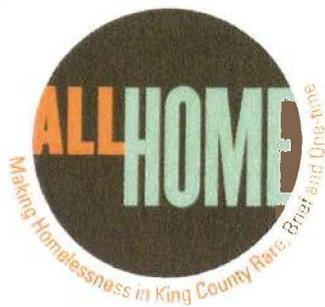
- 1.1 - Advocate and align systems to prevent people from experiencing homelessness,
- 2.5 - Increase access to permanent housing,
- 2.6 – Create employment and education opportunities to support stability

The certificate would help reduce barriers to employment for adults and juveniles who have a criminal history. The legislation identifies the requirements necessary to apply for a certificate.

Source of Income Restrictions

Key partners: HDC, WLIHA

Objective: Improve access to housing by preventing landlords from denying tenancy based solely on the grounds of the tenant relying on a subsidy or unearned income (such as Social Security Disability Insurance - SSDI) to pay all or a portion of their rent.



2016 State Legislative Priorities

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 1.2 – Advocate and support partners to preserve existing and create more affordable housing,
- 2.5 – Increase access to permanent housing

Protects tenants from discrimination based on the source of income used to pay for rent, but would still allow landlords to reject applications of tenants who do not have enough income/resources to meet the monthly rental payment, and to otherwise still deny tenancy on any other legal grounds.

Truth in Evictions Reporting Act

Key partner: WLIHA

Objective: Improve access to housing by prohibiting consumer reporting agencies from including unlawful evictions in tenant screening reports.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 2.5 – Increase access to permanent housing

Eviction court has many different outcomes. The tenant could have been wrongfully named, the tenant could have been a victim of their landlord's foreclosure, or the tenant could have prevailed. But tenant reports list all eviction lawsuits as equal. No matter the outcome, tenants have a mark on their record. This mark makes accessing a rental home in the future much more difficult. This is particularly important as King County strives to meet state requirements to increase rental assistance dollars paid in the private market. The Fair Credit Reporting Act is amended to prohibit consumer reporting agencies from including eviction records in any consumer report, if: the eviction suit did not result in a judgment finding the tenant liable for unlawful detainer (eviction) or otherwise in unlawful possession of the premises; the tenant was restored to his or her tenancy; or the judgment reflects a residual amount of rent left owed after the defendant substantially prevailed in an affirmative defense, counterclaim, or set-off. The Residential Landlord Tenant Act is amended to prohibit consumer reporting agencies from including any information regarding a tenant's prior involvement in such an eviction suit in a tenant screening report. A person injured by a violation of either of these provisions may bring a civil action to recover actual damages sustained, court costs, and reasonable attorney's fees.

Fair Tenant Screening Act

Key partners: WLIHA, Tenants Union, Solid Ground

Objective: Address the high costs of unnecessarily repeated tenant screenings by ensuring that if tenants can provide landlords access to an exhaustive and timely report, they cannot be charged for another report.

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 2.5 – Increase access to permanent housing



2016 State Legislative Priorities

This is particularly important in keeping with the new requirement to increase rental assistance dollars paid in the private market. Additionally, evictions should be reportable on tenant screening reports only when a tenant is found guilty at the end of an eviction proceeding.

Behavioral Health

Key partner: King County Department of Community and Human Services - Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division

All Home Work Plan Strategies →

- 1.1.E - Assure availability of critical services frequently needed by people with chronic disabilities and other vulnerable populations to enable them to live in stable community-based housing by advocating for funding and policies that reduce capacity barriers in other support systems. Provide professional development training to cross-system partners (criminal justice, behavioral health, healthcare, other) on best practices for serving people experiencing homelessness.
- 1.1.F - Advocate for secure sustainable funding to ensure sufficient, simplified access to behavioral health treatment such as detox, inpatient and outpatient psychiatric treatment and the integration of behavioral-physical health services. Support siting requests for new programs and services to assure regional distribution of housing and services.

In accordance with the All Home strategic plan, we recognize that behavioral health services are fundamental to housing stability for many, and connecting people to these services prevents homelessness and provides opportunities for others to get and stay housed. We support the legislative priorities of the Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division of the Department of Community and Human Services in King county available here:

www.kingcounty.gov/behavioralhealthlegislativepriorities.

All Home works closely with its partners to advance these priorities, including:



FAITH ACTION NETWORK

A Partnership for the Common Good

2016 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Reducing Wealth Inequality

- Pass Wage Theft prevention bills (misclassification, anti-retaliation, triple damages, and wage recovery)
- Increase minimum wage & fund our paid & sick leave policy
- Pass Gender Pay Equity bill
- Pass Aerospace Tax Preference Accountability bill
- Increase Jobs & Contracts for African American community
- Protect current Payday Lending statute

Fully Fund & Protect Health & Human Services, Mental Health programs, and Public Education

- Fully restore the monthly TANF grant
- Protect our state's Disability Lifeline program (HEN/ABD)
- Pass Breakfast After the Bell
- Fully fund our broken Mental Health System (e.g. Mental Health Courts)
- Fully fund the state Supreme Court's level for the McCleary ruling
- Pass the Capital Gains Tax

Dismantling the Culture of Violence

- Pass Criminal Justice Reform bills (Post-Secondary Education for Prisons, LFOs- Legal Financial Obligations, CROP-certificate program for Re-entry from prison, replace death penalty statute with a no release statute, Ban the Box)
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Protect Housing & Prevent Homelessness

- Pass Homeless Encampment bill (Rep. McBride prime sponsor)
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- Increase funding for Housing Trust Fund
- Prohibit Income Discrimination in housing rentals
- Allow for local control (90 day notification) for significant rent increases

Sustaining Washington's Environment

- Pass Toxic Free Kids bill
- Extend Solar Tax Credits for Homeowners
- Pass Pesticide Notification bill
- Support the Governor's Rulemaking process to Reduce CO2 Emissions

FAITH ACTION NETWORK

3720 Airport Way S, Seattle, WA 98134 | 206 625 9790 | fan@fanwa.org | www.fanwa.org



CITY OF KIRKLAND 2016 LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT AGENDA

Kirkland generally supports the policy principles of the items below, however, formal City support is contingent upon reviewing and approving the specific language of any legislative proposal drafted to advance a particular item.

2016 Legislative Support

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- Support vested rights legislation that keeps predictability and certainty for local governments, real estate developers and environmental and community advocates.
- Support legislation to enable local funding sources for multi-benefit watershed projects.
- Support providing cities with financing options to support public/private partnerships.
- Support brown grease to energy conversion legislation and programs.
- 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 Hi-Tech Industry through the "Washington Tech Cities Coalition" (WTC²)

Support for Infrastructure Funding

- Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) / Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA)
- Safe Routes to Schools & Complete Streets program Funding
- Transportation Investment Board Funding (TIB)
- Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB)
- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)
- Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)
- Regional Mobility Grant Funding Program - Preserve
- Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board Funding
- Support Healthy & Sustainable Communities Initiative

Additionally, Kirkland supports selected items from the 2016 legislative agendas led by the following ally organizations:

Association of Washington Cities

- **Infrastructure:** Halt the diversion from critical infrastructure programs to help cities grow and prosper.
- **Fiscal Sustainability:** Ensure sufficient and flexible revenue for essential city services.
- **Emergency Responsiveness:** Help cities prepare for and address impacts of natural disasters and other emergencies.
- **Public Records:** Strengthen the Public Records Act in response to changing technology and burdensome requests.
- **Human Services, Homelessness and Affordable Housing:** Enhance the provision of much needed human service programs to address issues that drive increased homelessness and public safety costs.

Transportation Issues

Transportation Choices Coalition *(The priorities below are TCC's DRAFT 2016 Legislative Priorities)*

With the passage of the 16-year, \$15 billion Connecting Washington Transportation package, our legislative efforts will be focused on:

- Maintaining commitments to the record level of multi-modal investments to fund important transit, bicycle, pedestrian projects and the Safe Routes to Schools program.
- Implementation of practical design concepts to realize project savings for important maintenance needs. The 2015 package set up new requirements around practical design that will create new flexible funding that should be prioritized for important maintenance projects over new capacity. These funds could also be used to address significant unmet transit capital needs around aging bus fleet replacement statewide.
- ~~405 Tolling: Oppose SB 6152 and HB 2312: TCC strongly supports the implementation of the new Express Toll Lanes on Interstate 405 to manage congestion and improve traffic flow. We oppose efforts to reduce the number of express toll lanes or to limit the duration of tolling. Pricing is an effective way to manage travel demand in this highly congested corridor and efforts to limit or undermine the intent of these toll lanes will impact the efficient movement of people and goods.~~

Eastside Transportation Partnership *(Still awaiting ETP anticipates's adopting adopted a 2016 priorities Jan. 8, 2016)*

Washington Bikes -

- **Investments that get Washingtonians where they want to go**

Retain historic funding levels made by 2015 Legislature for the Safe Routes to School Grant Program, Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Grant Program, Complete Streets Grant Program, as well as the bicycle and pedestrian project list.

- **Protecting Trails Statewide**

Washington State has some of the longest and most iconic trails in the nation for biking, walking. Washington Bikes is committed to keeping trails open and accessible. Washington Bikes will monitor and explore the potential for additional investments that connect and improve trails for neighboring residents, visitors, and neighboring communities that benefit from the economic opportunities that trails bring via the \$3.1 billion that bicycle riders spend in Washington State.

- **Strengthen Washington State's Distracted Driving Laws**

Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) agency request legislation improves upon the current law by broadening the definition so that any person (with much narrower exceptions) operating a motor vehicle while holding a personal wireless communications device is guilty of a traffic infraction. It closes loopholes such as being able to use one's phone while stopped at an intersection or stoplight (currently legal), it also expands the definitions of handheld uses to ban texting and email use on smart phones. Additional violations receive twice the penalty, plus violations go on one's driver record for insurance purposes. Finally, distracted driving would be included in Department of Licensing exams (currently they are not).

* Note: The boards of directors of Washington Bikes and Cascade Bicycle Club have merged. As of Jan. 1, 2016, Washington Bikes, will serve as the organization's 501(c)4 arm and address statewide policy and

outreach, selected statewide events and activities, and candidate endorsements. Cascade Bicycle Club will serve as the 501(c)3 tax-deductible wing, focused on education, diversity and inclusion programs, most of the signature events, and other advocacy work.

Human Services Issues

Eastside Human Services Forum *City staff has inquired with EHSF for its 2016 Legislative Priorities*

- **Support Access to Basic Needs and Health Services**
 - Allocate additional resources for behavior health, including mental health and substance abuse.
 - Enact legislation implementing Family and Medical Leave Insurance.
 - Provide Universal Health Care Coverage for those who do not meet ACA requirements.
 - Restore the remaining 6% of the 15% that was cut from TANF in 2011 and provide investments to support the most vulnerable individuals and families.

- **Make Homelessness Rare, Brief and One-Time**
 - Preserve funding for the Housing and Essential Needs Program and invest in the Washington Youth and Families Fund.
 - Protect low-income tenants by enacting statewide Source of Income Discrimination protections and passing Truth in Evictions legislation;
 - Provide other options, including funding tools, to help jurisdictions add affordable housing units; Increase funding for the Housing Trust Fund.

- **Support the Most Vulnerable Older Adults and People with Disabilities**
 - Enact a Medicaid Adult Hearing Hardware Benefit to cover hearing aids, cochlear implants, necessary supplies and related services;
 - Equip family caregivers by passing the CARE Act;
 - Increase support for services that enable adults to remain in the homes and in the community by increasing funding to the Senior Citizen's Services Act, Adult Day Health and Family Caregiver Support programs and case management' programs;

- **Strengthen Early Learning and Youth Programs**
 - Expand Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) slots by 650.
 - Return Behavioral Rehabilitation Services to the Revenue Forecast portion of the budget, and restore reimbursement rates for child placing agencies for foster care.

Washington Low Income Housing Alliance *City staff has inquired with WLIHA for its 2016 Legislative Priorities*

- **Fund Affordable Housing**

The Housing Trust Fund awards state funds on a competitive basis to build affordable homes. The majority of the homes built with HTF dollars house extremely low-income households, including people with disabilities, seniors, families with children exiting homelessness and more.

- **Allow more local options for affordable housing funding**

Allow local government to enact a new Real Estate Excise Tax or "REET" to fund affordable housing development. A small tax on real estate transactions can provide significant resources for affordable housing development and local government should be able to add this option to their affordable housing toolkit.

- **Defend and Protect our state's Disability Lifeline:**

- Housing and Essential Needs,
- Aged, Blind and Disabled income support,
- SSI Facilitation Services and,
- Medical Care Services for elderly and low-income immigrants.

Disability Lifeline programs include key safety-net services that prevent and end homelessness by reaching very low-income adults with disabilities that incapacitate them from work.

- Housing and Essential Needs = rental assistance for adults with a temporary disability.
- Aged, Blind and Disabled = cash support (\$197/month) for adults with a permanent disability.
- SSI Facilitation Services = DSHS administered services to assist permanently disabled adults receiving ABO cash to apply for SSI benefits.
- Medical Care Services = Health coverage for immigrants who are elderly and disabled with legally verified immigration status.

- **Implement a new Medicaid benefit for the services delivered in Permanent Supportive Housing**

The State Health Care Authority and DSHS have asked the federal government to grant a waiver to the state that will allow it to use state and federal Medicaid funds for the services delivered in permanent supportive housing. Permanent supportive housing ends chronic homelessness by housing people with significant barriers. The services delivered are key to keeping people housed and to improving health outcomes.

The Health Care Authority submitted an 1115 waiver request in August 2015. The state may have to take further action to implement the benefit if approved by the federal government.

- **Prohibit discrimination based on a renter's participation in a government assistance program.**

Tenants who are elderly, disabled, single-parents or people of color all disproportionately rely on government assistance. Currently, landlords can refuse housing, even if these tenants can pay the rent.

The state should follow the lead of many local jurisdictions in Washington and ban discrimination. Vancouver, Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland, Seattle and unincorporated King County already provide this protection, but tenants in every part of the state need it as well.

- **Pass the Fairness in Eviction Reporting Act**

Most landlords refuse to consider renting to tenants with an eviction associated with their name. But not all evictions are equal and tenant screening companies report all eviction filings as if the tenant had lost in court. A tenant who wins in eviction court has the same record as a tenant who lost - even if the tenant was wrongfully sued.

- **Pass the Fair Tenant Screening Act**

Tenants pay over and over again for the same tenant screening report, which significantly adds to the already high cost of finding housing. Tenants should be allowed to purchase just one comprehensive report which the tenant screening company allows the landlord to access. This would eliminate a significant barrier to housing while ensuring that landlords have timely access to high quality reports.

- **Allow local jurisdictions to require 90-day notices of significant rent increases and to improve local options for relocation assistance.**

Local government should be able to ensure that tenants receive more than 30-days notice for rent increases and should be able to ensure that landlords comply local relocations assistance

ordinances. A fix is needed on the state level to clarify the local options allowed to city government.

All Home FUNDING

- **Fund the Washington State Housing Trust Fund**
To maintain or increase state funding for building homeless and affordable housing.

- **Preserve the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN Program**
Hold harmless HEN assistance (funded at \$59 million in previous budgets), the Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABO) cash grant program, and SSI Facilitation Services. Improve the program by removing the current restriction on chemical dependency as primary disability; increasing ABO cash grant and/or; allowing ABO recipients to retain their HEN benefit for an extended period of time.

- **Support new local financing options through Real Estate Excise Tax for Housing (REET)**

- **Address shortfall in Consolidated Homeless Grant funding**
Backfill the \$8 million dollar shortfall in funding for Consolidated Homeless Grants which support local communities to fund services that prevent and end homelessness.

- **HOPE Beds and Street Youth Services**
Increase funding for HOPE Beds to provide emergency shelter for minors and provide adequate outreach to ensure youth know about these resources.

POLICY

- **Preservation Tax Exemption**

- **Youth Consent**
Allow youth under 18 to consent to participating in HMIS, providing greater capacity to understand the needs of youth and young adults in our system.

- **Source of Income Restrictions**
Improve access to housing by preventing landlords from denying tenancy based solely on the grounds of the tenant relying on a subsidy or unearned income (such as Social Security Disability Insurance- SSDI) to pay all or a portion of their rent.

Faith Action Network

- **Reducing Wealth Inequality**
 - Pass Wage Theft prevention bills (misclassification, anti-retaliation, triple damages, and wage recovery)
 - Increase minimum wage & fund our paid & sick leave policy
 - Pass Gender Pay Equity bill
 - Pass Aerospace Tax Preference Accountability bill
 - Increase Jobs & Contracts for African American community
 - Protect current Payday Lending statute

- **Fully Fund & Protect Health & Human Services, Mental Health programs, and Public Education**

- Fully restore the monthly TANF grant
- Protect our state's Disability Lifeline program (HEN/ABD)
- Pass Breakfast After the Bell
- Fully fund our broken Mental Health System (e.g. Mental Health Courts)
- Fully fund the state Supreme Court's level for the McCleary ruling
- Pass the Capital Gains Tax

- **Dismantling the Culture of Violence**

- Pass Criminal Justice Reform bills (Post-Secondary Education for Prisons, LFOs- Legal Financial Obligations, CROP-certificate program for Re-entry from prison, replace death penalty statute with a no release statute, Ban the Box)
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- Pass Fair Tenant Screening bill
- Increase funding for Housing Trust Fund
- Prohibit Income Discrimination in housing rentals
- Allow for local control (90 day notification) for significant rent increases

- **Sustaining Washington's Environment**

- Pass Toxic Free Kids bill
- Extend Solar Tax Credits for Homeowners
- Pass Pesticide Notification bill
- Support the Governor's Rulemaking process to Reduce CO2 Emissions

Environmental Issues

King County-Cities Climate Collaborative

- **Colstrip and Puget Sound Energy (PSE)** - support efforts to accelerate Puget Sound Energy's complete transition from coal to clean renewable energy by 2025 while providing certainty to rate payers on timing and cost. Legislation authorizing increased ownership of Colstrip should include provisions to minimize ratepayer liabilities and accelerate GHG emissions reductions.

Environmental Priorities Coalition *~~WEC plans to finalize~~Have not received EPC Legislative Priorities yet.y information by Jan. 8*

Northwest Product Stewardship Council (While the NPSC does not develop a legislative agenda, the NPSC does advocate in support of the principles of product stewardship and producer responsibility in policies and legislation.)

- **Support Paint Stewardship legislation.**

Water Issues

WRIA 8

- **Capital Budget: During the 2016 Supplemental Legislative Session, communicate support for salmon recovery capital funding priorities, including:**
 - **Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) Fund** – PSAR funds support implementation of the highest priority habitat protection and restoration projects throughout Puget Sound. The program includes two components: 1) Base funding allocated among Puget Sound watersheds for a habitat projects grant round, and 2) Funding for a prioritized list of specific large-scale, high-priority capital projects submitted by Puget Sound watersheds. Funds are derived from State general obligation bonds (RCW 77.85).
 - **Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)** grant program to protect and restore salmon habitat – SRFB funds are a combination of state and federal funds that support annual grant rounds for salmon habitat protection and restoration projects in watersheds around the state. This funding is a cornerstone of WRIA 8’s annual grant round.
- **Policy Legislation: Support continued efforts to explore new watershed-based funding authorities to support multiple-benefit projects that address salmon habitat protection and restoration, water quality, stormwater management, and flood management.**

Public Safety Issues

Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

- **Improve the State’s Mental Health System**

Mental health is quickly becoming Washington’s greatest public safety challenge. Without an effective state mental health system, law enforcement officers will continue to be forced into violent confrontations with the mentally ill, and local jail beds will continue to be filled with those who suffer from mental illness. Sheriffs and police chiefs believe that individuals who suffer from mental health challenges deserve an effective state system that provides evaluation and treatment to all who need it.

- **Increase DNA Testing Capacity**

Technological developments continue to pave the way for more efficient and effective crime fighting techniques. This is particularly the case in the field of DNA testing, where justice in Washington is limited not by technology, but by the WSP Crime Lab’s DNA testing capacity, and the Legislature’s limitation on the offender samples allowed into the CODIS database.

- **Address Unintended Consequences of the Public Records Act**

The state of Washington’s public records law enables and rewards blatant abuse and harassment. Furthermore, the law punishes, rather than encourages, the use of transparent and accountable technologies such as body-worn cameras. The current state of public records has far exceeded the intent and expectations of 1972. The Public Records Act is in need of an update to reflect the realities of today’s technology and privacy expectations, and to remove provisions that reward harassment and abuse.

- **Ensure Sufficient Funding for Statewide Public Safety Programs**

WASPC administers a number of important public safety programs on behalf of the State of Washington, including Uniform Crime Reporting, Jail Booking and Reporting, Crime Victim Notification, Auto Theft Prevention, and Sex Offender Address Verification. These programs are essential public safety programs for state and local law enforcement and help those agencies provide community safety services. These programs are also widely used by the general public in their efforts to remain safe.

Washington Fire Chiefs Association

- **Sustainable Fire/EMS funding** (examples)
 - Raise the E.M.S. levy cap to \$.75 /\$1000 of A.V.
 - Change fire levy funding to mirror port authorities which are outside the \$10 constitutional limit
 - Simple majority for RFA benefit service charge renewal
 - Restructure the 1% Lid Limit
 - Tax exempt facilities required to enter contract for fire protection
- **RFA structural equity with fire districts Statewide CBRNE response planning & funding Capital improvements for Fire Training Academy Support recommendations from volunteer recruitment & retention incentives committee** (examples)
 - Volunteer FF's opt into employer medical insurance pool
 - Employer tax credit for volunteer FF response during working hours

Parks Issues

Washington Recreation and Parks Association

- **Support Updates & Refinements to WWRP While Preserving Structure, Integrity of Program**

(Capital Budget/Policy Bill) WRPA played an active role in the legislatively-directed review that the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) undertook to update and revise the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program (WWRP). The WRPA strongly supports recommended steps to update and improved this 25-year-old program – for example, with recommendations to push more local parks funding into development projects that will upgrade and renovate existing facilities. However, the WRPA will join other stakeholders in working to ensure that the basic structure and integrity of the WWRP remains intact through any 2016 legislative overhaul of the Program.
- **Boating Facilities Program -- Appropriation in 2016 Supplemental Capital Budget**

(Capital Budget) WRPA will strongly support a Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) initiative to appropriate \$4.7 million in the Fiscal Year 2016 Supplemental Capital Budget from marine-fuel portions of the "Connecting Washington" gas tax package enacted by the 2015 Legislature. An FY 2016 supplemental appropriation of 2015-authorized tax proceeds would allow more state-operated and locally-operated boating facilities to be funded, sooner, under the Boating Facilities Program (BFP).
- **Clarifying and Reinforcing Recreational Liability Immunity for Multi-Purpose Trails**

(Policy Bill) WRPA will support 2016 legislation being promoted by the City of Mercer Island to reinforce recreational liability immunity for trails used by bicyclists. This issue has been clouded by the recent Camicia vs. Howard S. Wright Construction and City of Mercer Island case. WRPA will work to ensure that in any legislation, no current recreational immunity protection is undermined.
- **Governor's "Healthiest Next Generation" Initiative**

(Operating Budget) The WRPA will support a 2016 Supplemental Operating Budget proposal from the Governor's Office to add permanent funding for staffing associated with the "Healthiest Next Generation" initiative. However, the WRPA wants to ensure that for purposes of the 2017-19 budget, the Governor's Office and the Department of Health are working toward "built environment" and parks/recreation investments that can enhance public health, guard against obesity, and improve access to the outdoors and to open space for those who need it most.

Planning Issues

Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association

Not finalized yet (as of 1/22/16)



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- Implementation of practical design concepts to realize project savings for important maintenance needs.

Eastside Transportation Partnership - Not finalized yet (as of 1/22/16)

Washington Bikes

- **Investments that get Washingtonians where they want to go**
- **Protecting Trails Statewide**
- **Strengthen Washington State's Distracted Driving Laws**

* Note: The boards of directors of Washington Bikes and Cascade Bicycle Club have merged. As of Jan. 1, 2016, Washington Bikes, will serve as the organization's 501(c)4 arm and address statewide policy and outreach, selected statewide events and activities, and candidate endorsements. Cascade Bicycle Club will serve as the 501(c)3 tax-deductible wing, focused on education, diversity and inclusion programs, most of the signature events, and other advocacy work.

Human Services Issues

Eastside Human Services Forum

- **Support Access to Basic Needs and Health Services**
- **Make Homelessness Rare, Brief and One-Time**
- **Support the Most Vulnerable Older Adults and People with Disabilities**
- **Strengthen Early Learning and Youth Programs**

Washington Low Income Housing Alliance

- **Fund Affordable Housing**
- **Allow more local options for affordable housing funding**
- **Defend and Protect our state's Disability Lifeline:**
- **Implement a new Medicaid benefit for the services delivered in Permanent Supportive Housing**
- **Prohibit discrimination based on a renter's participation in a government assistance program.**
- **Pass the Fairness in Eviction Reporting Act**
- **Pass the Fair Tenant Screening Act**
- **Allow local jurisdictions to require 90-day notices of significant rent increases and to improve local options for relocation assistance.**

All Home

FUNDING PRIORITIES

- Fund the Washington State Housing Trust Fund
- Preserve the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN Program)
- Support new local financing options through Real Estate Excise Tax for Housing (REET)
- Address shortfall in Consolidated Homeless Grant funding
- HOPE Beds and Street Youth Services

POLICY PRIORITIES

- Preservation Tax Exemption
- Youth Consent
- Source of Income Restrictions

Faith Action Network

- Reducing Wealth Inequality
- Fully Fund & Protect Health & Human Services, Mental Health programs, and Public Education
- Dismantling the Culture of Violence
- Protect Housing & Prevent Homelessness
- Sustaining Washington's Environment

Environmental Issues

King County-Cities Climate Collaborative

- Colstrip and Puget Sound Energy (PSE)

Environmental Priorities Coalition *Have not received EPC Legislative Priorities yet.*

Northwest Product Stewardship Council (While the NPSC does not develop a legislative agenda, the NPSC does advocate in support of the principles of product stewardship and producer responsibility in policies and legislation.)

- **Support Paint Stewardship legislation.**

Water Issues

WRIA 8

- **Capital Budget:** During the 2016 Supplemental Legislative Session, communicate support for salmon recovery capital funding priorities, including:
 - Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) Fund
 - Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)
- **Policy Legislation:** Support continued efforts to explore new watershed-based funding authorities to support multiple-benefit projects that address salmon habitat protection and restoration, water quality, stormwater management, and flood management.

Public Safety Issues

Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

- **Improve the State's Mental Health System**
- **Increase DNA Testing Capacity**
- **Address Unintended Consequences of the Public Records Act**
- **Ensure Sufficient Funding for Statewide Public Safety Programs**

Washington Fire Chiefs Association

- **Sustainable Fire/EMS funding** (examples)
 - Raise the E.M.S. levy cap to \$.75 /\$1000 of A.V.
 - Change fire levy funding to mirror port authorities which are outside the \$10 constitutional limit
 - Simple majority for RFA benefit service charge renewal
 - Restructure the 1% Lid Limit
 - Tax exempt facilities required to enter contract for fire protection
- **RFA structural equity with fire districts Statewide CBRNE response planning & funding Capital improvements for Fire Training Academy Support recommendations from volunteer recruitment & retention incentives committee** (examples)
 - Volunteer FF's opt into employer medical insurance pool
 - Employer tax credit for volunteer FF response during working hours

Parks Issues

Washington Recreation and Parks Association

- **Support Updates & Refinements to WWRP While Preserving Structure, Integrity of Program**
- **Boating Facilities Program -- Appropriation in 2016 Supplemental Capital Budget**
- **Clarifying and Reinforcing Recreational Liability Immunity for Multi-Purpose Trails**
- **Governor's "Healthiest Next Generation" Initiative**

Planning Issues

Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association

Not finalized yet (as of 1/22/16)