

General Principles

Kirkland supports legislation to promote the City Council's goals and protect the City's ability to provide basic municipal services to its residents.

- Protect shared state revenue sources available to the City and provide new revenue options and flexibility in the use of existing revenues.
- Support long-term sustainability efforts related to City financial, environmental, transportation and housing goals.
- Support reestablishing the partnership between cities and the State to ensure that critical mandates are funded, and vital services are provided to all of the residents of the state.

City of Kirkland 2022 Legislative Priorities

- Kirkland supports new local funding and policy tools to create more affordable housing, such as:
 - Providing exemptions to promote housing affordability, such as a property tax exemption for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) that are dedicated for occupancy by low-income people
 - Removing barriers to building affordable housing, such as: defining affordable housing developments as essential public facilities.
 - Removing barriers to stimulate the creation of new condominiums and the conversion of existing apartments.
 - Maintaining authorization of the development of affordable housing on WSDOT surplus property including below market sale or lease of surplus property.
- Kirkland supports clarifying police reform legislation (HB 1310 and HB 1054), consistent with Kirkland Resolution R-5434
 - Support changes to HB 1310 to clarify that a peace officer may use reasonable physical force in circumstances where the peace officer is executing a valid court order or performing community caretaking functions, including but not limited to, assisting medical, mental health, or street crisis responders, taking custody of and transporting those in need of medical or mental health services, performing welfare checks, or taking minors into protective custody.
 - Support clarifications to HB 1054 to allow law enforcement and correctional officers to use less than lethal munitions. This change would make HB 1054 consistent with language in HB 1310 that requires the use of less than lethal tools.
- Kirkland supports legislative actions that promote equity and social justice, such as:
 - New local funding and policy tools to address homelessness
 - Allowing local jurisdictions to implement ranked-choice voting
 - Sunsetting the Houghton Community Council
- Kirkland supports capital budget funding for pedestrian and bike safety improvements at:
 - A) Willows Road Regional Connection
 - B) Tolt Pipeline connection with Woodinville
 - C) 132nd Place NE/Slater Ave. NE and the Eastrail
 - D) Bridge Crossing of Denny Creek at NE 132nd Street