

# CITY OF KIRKLAND

## 2026 Legislative Agenda



### General Principles

Kirkland supports legislation that promotes the City Council's goals, plans, policies, and initiatives that enable Kirkland to provide basic municipal services and meet the needs of current and future community members.

- Protect shared State revenue sources available to the City and provide new revenue options and flexibility of existing revenues.
- Support the partnership between Cities and the State to ensure that critical mandates are funded, and vital services are provided to all community members, including community-based behavioral health and other critical human services.
- Advance initiatives identified in the City's Work Program; Council Goals; Budget; Comprehensive Plan; Sustainability Strategic Plan; Transportation Strategic Plan; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging 5-year Roadmap; Housing Strategy Plan; Homelessness Action Plan, and related documents.
- Support State legislation that protects our residents and businesses from loss of critical assistance programs or civil liberties due to federal actions.

### 2026 Legislative Priorities

- Funding and policy tools to increase housing, access to a greater diversity of housing types, and concurrent investments in the infrastructure needed to support new homes, such as parks, open space, transportation, services, and school capacity.
- Preserve and expand policy and funding tools to support a safe and reliable transportation system for all users, including continuing revenue sharing with local governments, and updating State law to create safer operations of motorized bicycles.
- Legislation that authorizes Cities to implement, fairly and equitably, street noise enforcement programs based on the pilot of new technology already underway in Kirkland and designed to identify and reduce street racing and other unlawfully loud vehicle uses.
- Legislation that creates flexibility for local jurisdictions operating jails when it comes to selecting the gender of the officer performing body searches.
- Legislative actions identified from the King County Regional Utility Rate Summit that receive Council support.

### 2026 Budget Requests

Kirkland requests capital budget funding for:

- Addition of a synthetic turf infield to promote increased playability during winter months for baseball and softball players in the 1st LD.
- Additional trail construction in the Kingsgate neighborhood near Juanita-Woodinville Way NE and NE 140th Street to create safe pedestrian paths to schools in the 45th LD.
- Improvements to Lee Johnson field for the Junior League Softball World Series in the 48th LD.
- Improvements to the City of Kirkland Public Works Maintenance Center in the 48th LD.



### Further Monitoring of Other Policy Organizations<sup>1</sup>

Kirkland monitors legislation proposed by the following organizations for alignment with the City's General Principles and Legislative Priorities.

#### Transportation

- Eastside Transportation Partnership
- Transportation Choices
- Eastrail Partners

#### Housing

- Washington Low Income Housing Alliance
- Housing Development Consortium

#### Human Services

- Eastside Human Services Forum
- King County Behavioral Health
- Faith Action Network

#### Environment

- King County-Cities Climate Collaboration
- People for Climate Action Kirkland
- Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA8) Partners

#### Water

- Cascade Water Alliance

#### First Response

- Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs
- Washington Fire Chiefs Association
- Washington Co-Responder Outreach Alliance

#### Parks

- Washington Recreation & Parks Association

#### Open Government & Transparency

- Washington Coalition for Open Government

#### Education

- Lake Washington School District
- Lake Washington Institute of Technology
- Cascadia College

#### Regional & Statewide

- Association of Washington Cities
- King County
- Puget Sound Regional Council

#### Other Issue Areas

- Pro-Choice Washington
- Planned Parenthood
- Alliance for Gun Responsibility
- Kirkland Chamber of Commerce

<sup>1</sup>*This is a list of organizations in which the City is involved or that, historically, have supported policies that align with previous or current Council goals, including policies that may advance initiatives identified in the City-adopted plans listed above in the General Principles. Inclusion on this list does not imply automatic support of an organization's legislative agenda. The primary purpose of this list is to aid Kirkland's Legislative Work Group in monitoring legislation and to signal where the City, with subsequent discussion by the Council, may choose to invest additional effort on advocacy. Intentionally keeping this list narrow allows the Legislative Work Group to focus on high-priority policies and bills, while remaining open to dedicating additional time and effort to particular legislation, if and when priorities align.*