



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
**City Manager's Office**  
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001  
www.kirklandwa.gov

---

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager

**From:** Lorrie McKay, Intergovernmental Relations  
Andreana Campbell, Policy Analyst

**Date:** October 22, 2020

**Subject:** 2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council approve the attached resolution adopting the City's 2021 State Legislative Priorities (Attachment A). By taking action on the consent agenda, this resolution will be approved.

### **BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:**

A draft set of legislative priorities recommended for 2021 was presented to the full council at its October 20 meeting. One of the recommendations was to add a new segment to the City's overall state legislative agenda called the Priority Coalition Advocacy agenda. Council's feedback supported the additional of this new segment. The City's State Legislative Agenda now consists of four segments: General Principles; the City's top Legislative "Priorities" agenda (Kirkland specific priorities); Priority Coalition Advocacy agenda (A limited number key issues – no more than three - led by other organizations); and the Support Items agenda (Selected issues/items championed by allies, which the City may "support," i.e., these are not priority items).

This memo addresses only the legislative priorities and priority coalition advocacy items for 2021. The agenda's top priority items represent the primary focus for Council's Legislative Workgroup, the Intergovernmental Relations and the City's contract lobbyists during session. For the agenda's priority coalition advocacy items, the City could provide a similar level of legislative engagement on these items as it does on its top priorities, but the City would not be the lead on the issues.

At Council's October 20 meeting, as well as at writing of this memo, not all organizations have finalized their legislative priorities and goals for 2021. Meaning, Council was able to consider which organizations are recommended as Priority Coalitions (the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, the Alliance for Gun Responsibility and the Association of Washington Cities). However, Council was unable to review the legislative goals of these organizations, except for the goals of the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) related to its statewide policing reforms priority. The AWC's adopted legislative priority on statewide policing reforms and the related legislative goals are illustrated below. Once finalized, staff will return to Council with details on the legislative goals of the remainder of priority coalition advocacy items.

The AWC's legislative priority of Statewide Policing Reforms reads as follows: *Support local control over city law enforcement policy decisions to meet the needs of each community and appropriately contain costs. Cities understand our obligation to address racial equity in policing – both state requirements and local policies.*

*Cities support the following statewide reforms:*

- *Develop a statewide standard for use of force that preserves the right of local jurisdictions to enact more restrictive standards based on community input.*
- *Create a database to track officers who have been fired for misconduct.*
- *Expand grounds for decertification to include use of force violations.*
- *Require that officer misconduct investigations be completed, regardless of an officer's resignation.*
- *Establish a duty for all law enforcement officers to immediately intervene and report misconduct or illegal activity by a fellow police officer.*
- *Require that all officers receive regular support for vicarious trauma and mental well-being, including peer support, mental health counseling, and appropriate mental health screenings. Officers involved in any fatal use of force must undergo a mental health screening prior to returning to duty.*

#### Technical Correction to October 20 version of Legislative Priorities Presented to Council

Staff identified a minor technical error in the draft legislative priorities presented October 20 (Attachment B). The error was found in the first bulleted "top" priority related to RCW amendments that facilitate Transit-Oriented Development at the Kingsgate Park and Ride, NE 85<sup>th</sup> & I-405 and other WSDOT-owned properties. Staff has deleted the word "and" as shown below:

- Kirkland supports ~~and~~ legislative actions that facilitate Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) for the Kingsgate Park and Ride TOD Pilot project, the I-405 & NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street Station Area and future TOD projects at other WSDOT-owned properties. Action such as:

#### Council Feedback to the October 20 Draft 2021 Legislative Priorities

At its October 20 meeting, while Council did provide feedback, it did not propose any changes to the draft 2021 legislative priorities presented. The feedback received is summarized below.

Councilmember Black expressed support for the 2021 Legislative Agenda as drafted. He articulated disappointment that this year's AWC City Action Days will be a "virtual" event, due to the ongoing pandemic. Councilmember Black encouraged staff to find creative ways during this constricted session for the City to be effective, without having a physical presence on the Capitol campus.

Councilmember Nixon noted, with regard to the priority coalition advocacy items, that there may be some legislative goals that the Council may not be unified on. So, before the City takes any kind of a position on these items at any legislative committee hearings, he requested that the priority coalition advocacy items be brought back to the full council for review and the opportunity for Councilmembers to go on the record with their agreement or disagreement.

Councilmember Falcone commented that the addition of the new priority coalition advocacy items segment is an improvement to the City's overall legislative agenda, and she is pleased to see the Association of Washington Cities' (AWC) priority to pursue statewide policing reforms

included. That said, Councilmember Falcone also expressed concern with AWC's need to be somewhat neutral to balance different city perspectives statewide, that perhaps its advocacy for issues of racial justice is not in-line with Kirkland resolution R-5434 and not strong enough. Councilmember Falcone encouraged the city to try to identify an organization whose racial justice legislative goal is better aligned with resolution R-5434 and its direction.

Councilmember Pascal commented that new priority coalition advocacy segment is exactly what he is looking for in order to elevate just a few items from the many items typically included on the support items agenda. Councilmember Pascal urged that list of items included in this segment not grow - that it is kept limited, compact and focused.

Deputy Mayor Arnold spoke to Councilmember Falcone's point about identifying an organization whose racial justice legislative goal is better aligned with the City's resolution 5434. The Deputy Mayor noted that the Legislative Workgroup has asked the City's lobbyist to help identify such a lead organization with whom to work in coalition. He reported that to date, no single group advocating on racial justice in Olympia has been identified. At the same time, without seeing what the agenda is, there are some champions in the legislature who are committed to trying to move proposals in their committees.

Deputy Mayor Arnold asserted that the AWC's statewide policing reforms priority is a very aggressive agenda item for what AWC has historically presented and it is a strong step forward. That said, the Deputy Mayor assured that Legislative Workgroup will be keeping an eye out for other coalitions that are driving these issues in Olympia and potentially specific bills to call out and support, regardless of where AWC is on the bill or the issue. The Workgroup will keep the Council plugged-in as it learns more when session begins in January.

Mayor Sweet commented that the proposed draft is an aggressive agenda, given the legislature's first trial meeting October 19. She stressed that the 2021 session is going to be very difficult and strange.

#### Draft 2021 Support Items Agenda

In addition to returning with additional detail on the Priority Coalition Advocacy items, staff will return to Council with a draft "support items" agenda for review and consideration at one of Council's regular meetings in January 2021.

#### The City Council's Legislative Workgroup

The City Council's Legislative Workgroup, consisting of Mayor Sweet, Deputy Mayor Arnold and Councilmember Curtis, is staffed by the City Manager and the Intergovernmental Relations & Economic Development Manager, with participation from Waypoint Consulting Group, the City's contracted lobbyist. Deputy Mayor Arnold is the Chair the Legislative Workgroup, which guides the development of the City's legislative priorities and activities. During session, the Workgroup meets weekly to track the status of the City's priorities and it provides support and oversight of strategies for achieving the priorities.

By approving the legislative agenda on November 4, the Council will meet the goal of having the City's 2021 legislative priorities adopted before the Legislative Work Group hosts its annual legislative coffees with the city's delegation that are scheduled for November.

### The City's State Legislative Delegation

The City of Kirkland includes three legislative districts – 1<sup>st</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup>, and 48<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Legislative District 1**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative District is represented by Senator Derek Stanford who is up for reelection November 3. The House seats are currently held by Representatives Shelly Kloba and Davina Duerr, both of whom are up for reelection November 3 as well.

#### **Legislative District 45**

Voters in the 45<sup>th</sup> Legislative District are represented by Senator Manka Dhingra. The House seats are currently represented by Representatives Larry Springer and Roger Goodman, both of whom are up for reelection November 3.

#### **Legislative District 48**

The 48<sup>th</sup> Legislative District is represented by Senator Patty Kuderer. The House seats are currently held by Representatives Amy Walen and Vandana Slatter, both of whom are up for reelection November 3.

### State Lobbyists

Waypoint Consulting serves as Kirkland's State lobbyists. Waypoint partners Majken Ryherd and Teresita Torres participate in the legislative coffees.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

The 2021 legislative session is the first year of the biennium and it is a long, 105-day session that will begin on Monday, January 11 and end Thursday, April 23, 2021

With Council adoption of the City's 2021 Legislative Priorities, staff will share the City's 2021 priorities with the Association of Washington Cities and the Sound Cities Association. Further, the priorities will be shared and discussed with members of the delegation during the annual legislative coffees in November. In addition, staff will prepare the final draft Priority Coalition Advocacy Agenda and a draft Support Items Agenda for Council's consideration in January 2021.

Attachments: A. Proposed Final 2021 Legislative Priorities  
B. Redline version 2021 Priorities showing technical change Resolution



## **CITY OF KIRKLAND 2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

### **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 citizens.

- 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 and transportation 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 2021 Legislative Priorities**

- Kirkland supports legislative actions that facilitate Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) for the Kingsgate Park and Ride TOD Pilot project, the I-405 & NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street Station Area and future TOD projects at other WSDOT-owned properties. Actions such as:
  - Amend RCWs 47.12.080, .063, .120 by removing the requirements that WSDOT must declare the property unused, no longer required for transportation purposes, or held for highway purposes, but not presently needed, prior to allowing the disposal or leasing of such property.
  - Amend RCW 47.04.295 and RCWs 47.12.080, .063, and .120 to grant WSDOT discretion in whether or not to charge fair market value for the lease or disposal of park and ride real property when the lease or disposal is for the purpose of providing affordable housing or multimodal transportation infrastructure
- Kirkland supports allowing Code Cities to complete local residential street maintenance projects in-house if no contractors enter a project bid
- Kirkland supports capital budget funding for prioritized local infrastructure projects

### **City of Kirkland 2021 Priority Coalition Advocacy Agenda**

- ❖ Advocate for the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance's efforts for new local funding and policy tools to address homelessness and create more affordable housing.
- ❖ Advocate for the Alliance for Gun Responsibility's recommendations for gun safety measures that promote safe and responsible gun ownership and reduce gun violence.
  - Include a Kirkland focus on amending state law as necessary, consistent with the Washington State Constitution, to prevent the visible presence of firearms from intimidating those exercising rights to assembly.
- ❖ Advocate for the Association of Washington Cities' (AWC) Statewide Policing Reforms priority.



## CITY OF KIRKLAND 2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

### 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 citizens.

- 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 and transportation 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 2021 Legislative Priorities

- Kirkland supports ~~and~~ legislative actions that facilitate Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) for the Kingsgate Park and Ride TOD Pilot project, the I-405 & NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street Station Area and future TOD projects at other WSDOT-owned properties. Action such as:
  - Amend RCWs 47.12.080, .063, .120 by removing the requirements that WSDOT must declare the property unused, no longer required for transportation purposes, or held for highway purposes, but not presently needed, prior to allowing the disposal or leasing of such property.
  - Amend RCW 47.04.295 and RCWs 47.12.080, .063, and .120 to grant WSDOT discretion in whether or not to charge fair market value for the lease or disposal of park and ride real property when the lease or disposal is for the purpose of providing affordable housing or multimodal transportation infrastructure
- Kirkland supports allowing Code Cities to complete local residential street maintenance projects in-house if no contractors enter a project bid
- Kirkland supports capital budget funding for prioritized local infrastructure projects

### City of Kirkland 2021 Priority Coalition Advocacy Agenda

- Advocate for the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance's efforts for new local funding and policy tools to address homelessness and create more affordable housing.
- Advocate for the Alliance for Gun Responsibility's recommendations for gun safety measures that promote safe and responsible gun ownership and reduce gun violence.
  - Include a Kirkland focus on amending state law as necessary, consistent with the Washington State Constitution, to prevent the visible presence of firearms from intimidating those exercising rights to assembly.
- Advocate for the Association of Washington Cities' (AWC) Statewide Policing Reforms priority.

RESOLUTION R-5450

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND APPROVING A CITY OF KIRKLAND LEGISLATIVE AGENDA TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE 2021 SESSION OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

1 WHEREAS, actions of the State Legislature in respect to  
2 local government issues, services and funding have a profound  
3 impact upon the ability of local governments to provide local  
4 services; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, the City Council supports legislation that  
7 promotes the Council's goals and protects the City of Kirkland's  
8 ability to provide municipal services to its residents; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, the City seeks to protect shared state revenue  
11 sources available to the City and to provide new revenue options  
12 and flexibility in the use of existing revenues; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, the Council supports long-term sustainability  
15 efforts related to City financial, environmental and transportation  
16 goals; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, the Council supports reestablishing the  
19 partnership between cities and the State to ensure that critical  
20 mandates are funded and vital services are provided to all of the  
21 residents of the state; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, the Council believes it appropriate to set forth  
24 its position as to issues affecting local government operations  
25 coming before the State Legislature during its 2021 session,  
26 including issues which the Council requests the Legislature to  
27 consider.  
28

29 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the  
30 City of Kirkland as follows:  
31

32 Section 1. The "General Principles" and "City of Kirkland  
33 2021 Legislative Priorities" set forth in the "City of Kirkland 2021  
34 Legislative Agenda," attached as Exhibit A and by this reference  
35 incorporated, are adopted as the City's recommendations to the  
36 State Legislature during its 2021 session.  
37

38 Section 2. The City administration shall transmit the 2021  
39 Legislative Agenda, including any subsequent changes or updates,  
40 to members of the State Legislature representing the legislative  
41 districts in which Kirkland is located, together with other members  
42 of the State Legislature and to the Association of Washington  
43 Cities, the Sound Cities Association and other ally organizations.

44  
45  
46  
47  
48

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this \_\_ day of November, 2020.

Signed in authentication thereof this \_\_ day of November, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Penny Sweet, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathi Anderson, City Clerk