



2025 Legislative Priorities

Olympia



DESCHUTES ESTUARY RESTORATION

- Support for State funding for the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project that will restore 260 acres of historic estuarine and salt marsh habitat across 2 miles in South Puget Sound.

TAX REFORM

Revise the Arbitrary Property Tax Cap

- Revise the property tax cap to tie it to inflation, up to 3%, and population growth factors so local elected officials can adjust the local property tax rate to better serve their communities.
- Fix the structural deficit in the city revenue and expenditure model created by the current 1% cap, resulting in a reliance on regressive revenues and artificially restricting the use of property taxes to fund basic services like police, fire, streets, and community amenities like parks.

Address Regressive Revenue Options

- Efforts to review and revise both state and local tax structures to provide less regressive revenue options to Making the Washington State tax code more fair, adequate, stable, and transparent.
- Changes to the state tax structure that would not negatively impact cities' revenue flexibility to address community needs.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY LIVABILITY

Study of Reparations

- Create a state level taskforce to study reparations for the descendants of enslaved African people and implement the findings of such a study in order to increase the upward economic mobility and reduce the racial wealth gap for African American residents.

Address Issues of Financial Stability

- Create programs to address the cost of rent, food and childcare as outlined in the Evergreen Basic Income Pilot Program.

Resources to Address Homelessness

- Continued State support for the operation and management of existing and expanded permanent supportive housing sites.
- Continued State support for the Rights-of-Way Safety Initiative to include city owned Rights-of-Way.

Resources to Support Affordable Housing

- The creation of new tools, incentives, revenues and resources to increase affordable housing supply, including an approach to transit-oriented development density increases that
 - Address affordable housing needs.

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- Reflects existing and future community transportation modes.
- Maintains consistency with local community development needs and promotes multi-modal access to services.
- Removes barriers to condominium development and ownership.
- State leadership and support for renter/tenant protections, including rent stabilization and tenant screening.
- State resources for moderate and low-income community members to achieve housing stability and pathways to homeownership.

CLIMATE

Further Legislative Action Related to Climate Change and Statewide Climate Justice Initiatives

- Actions by the State Legislature to prohibit the extension of new natural gas service and require gas companies to plan for decarbonization and electrification.
- Allocation of state funding for building decarbonization and weatherization initiatives, with an emphasis on low- and moderate-income residents, multifamily housing, and small businesses.
- Allocation of state funding for programs that substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with an emphasis on hard-to-decarbonize sectors, including on-road and transit diesel vehicles.
- Establish and fund a statewide Navigator program to provide information and resources to help businesses and residents access clean energy incentives and find qualified contractors for energy upgrades and retrofits.
- Establish a statewide home energy assessment and disclosure program that provides a common framework and licensing program for residential energy assessments and disclosures.

- Actions by the State Legislature to reduce waste and develop a circular economy, including establishing an extended producer responsibility program.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

- State support to help local governments continue to meet increasing public safety demands.
- Direct funding to offset cities' costs for implementing new laws including staffing, law enforcement assisted diversion, co-responder teams, therapeutic courts, and diversion programs.

Expand Mental Health and Behavioral Health Resources

- Create greater access to community based mental health and behavioral health resources, to include substance use disorder treatment and dual diagnosis treatment facilities.
- Increased funding to help expand crisis response, co-responder programs, diversion and other programs that provide options beyond law enforcement to assist individuals experiencing behavioral health challenges.
- Increased support to improve workforce and staffing at community treatment centers and to expand treatment facilities; including education funding for professionals to enter the mental health and behavioral health fields.
- Help for families to get family members, who are not minors, into psychiatric care.

Further Legislative Action to Reduce Gun Violence

- Further State leadership to put safeguards in place to prevent gun violence in public spaces and schools, expanding the prohibition of open carry to all publicly owned facilities.



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