



City of Seattle

2025 State Legislative Priorities

We have identified the following priorities for the 2025 legislative session:

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Champion legislation that fosters a safer environment for everyone by giving local jurisdictions tools and funding to uphold justice, protect communities, and hold those who violate the law accountable for their actions.
- Restrict firearms in city buildings, parks, and community centers and end preemption of local gun violence prevention laws.
- Support the expansion and use of Seattle's Community Assisted Response & Engagement to increase alternative 911 responses.
- Update police accountability arbitration rules and procedures to ensure discipline for misconduct is fair and consistent.
- Increase funding to help local governments hire more police officers and continue state funding for 100 percent of Basic Law Enforcement Academy costs.
- Help the city advance Vision Zero by increasing pedestrian safety through safe systems improvements, funding Move Ahead Washington commitments that improve safety on state highways, and policy changes such as expanding local authority for shared streets.
- Improve our public safety infrastructure by providing Seattle the same ability as other local jurisdictions to hire pro tem judges that reside outside of the city.
- Allow for federally accredited labs to conduct testing of blood samples in presumed drug and liquor intoxication cases.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Fund intensive case management and comprehensive, on-demand, and culturally attuned substance use disorder treatment. Support a secure detox facility in Seattle that allows individuals to stabilize and get treatment.
- Improve the reasonable use of involuntary treatment by increasing system capacity and making the Involuntary Treatment Act a more effective and useful tool for first responders.
- Increase funding for mental health supports for students and invest in programs and projects including, but not limited to, Red Barn Ranch, which supports the mental and physical health of youth.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & SMALL BUSINESS

- Support small businesses by addressing cost pressures, capital improvements, insurance, organized retail theft, and public safety issues
- Support special events and World Cup activations by allowing flexible movement of food and drink.
- Create a fast and responsive graffiti abatement process along tunnels and walls on state highways to allow for a vibrant, safe, and welcoming city for locals and visitors.



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HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

- Improve the state's encampment resolution program to provide more urgent responses and additional funds for maintenance and activation of WSDOT rights-of-way.
- Provide immediate support for individual and family asylum seekers by funding and prioritizing operational completion of the state-led system.
- Support stabilization for a range of affordable housing options, including permanent supportive housing and workforce housing, and provide capital, operating, maintenance, and services funding.
- Provide Connecting Housing to Infrastructure investments for the Fort Lawton Redevelopment Plan to establish permanent supportive housing, workforce housing, and homeownership opportunities.
- Increase homeownership options by addressing barriers to condominium development.

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

- Enact recycling reform to make curbside recycling easier and cheaper.
- Promote and incentivize energy efficiency and decarbonization of buildings.
- Secure Capital funding for decarbonization projects, including, but not limited to, creation of the Seattle Center Eco-district.

ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR SERVICES & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- Lift the arbitrary cap on local government property taxes.
- Fully fund K-12 education and support Seattle Public Schools families through investments in basic education, student transportation, universal free school meals, special education, technical assistance for districts, and other operational costs.
- Support efforts to increase affordable childcare access statewide, including construction of new facilities, increasing workforce development, and expanding access to state subsidized childcare slots.



For more information, please contact Seattle's State Legislative Team:

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