



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

**TO: Community Services and Safety Committee
Finance & Governance Committee**

FROM: Rachel Bianchi, Deputy City Administrator

CC: Mayor Ekberg

DATE: October 18, 2022

SUBJECT: 2023 Legislative Agenda

ISSUE

The City of Tukwila develops an annual legislative agenda for use in Olympia during the legislative session.

BACKGROUND

The City's Legislative Agenda provides direction to staff and consensus among the elected officials as to what policy positions are taken on behalf of the City of Tukwila during the legislative session.

RECOMMENDATION

The Community Services and Safety and Finance & Governance Committees are being asked to provide comment and feedback, which will be incorporated into the agenda for discussion at the November 28, 2022, Committee of the Whole meeting. The full Council is being asked to formally adopt the agenda at the December 5 Regular Meeting. The City's lobbyist, David Foster, will provide a legislative update at the November 28 Committee of the Whole meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution in draft form
Attachment A – Legislative Agenda

DRAFT

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR USE DURING THE 2023 WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

WHEREAS, the City Council has agreed to pursue certain legislative issues for 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes this agenda is not all encompassing, in that certain additional items may arise during the legislative session that require support or opposition; and

WHEREAS, a legislative agenda outlines the priority issues that elected officials may discuss when speaking to members of the Washington State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City Council agreed to these priorities at the City Council Meeting on December 5, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The Tukwila City Council has identified priorities for the 2023 Washington State Legislative Session that provide a framework for advocacy on behalf of the community. The City of Tukwila 2023 Legislative Agenda is hereby incorporated by reference as Attachment A.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, at a Regular Meeting thereof this _____ day of _____, 2022.

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Christy O'Flaherty, MMC, City Clerk

Thomas McLeod, Council President

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY:

Filed with the City Clerk: _____
Passed by the City Council: _____
Resolution Number: _____

Office of the City Attorney

Attachment A: City of Tukwila 2023 Legislative Agenda

ATTACHMENT A
City of Tukwila ~~2022~~ 2023 Legislative Agenda

~~Transportation & Infrastructure~~

- ~~• Provide funding for critical local infrastructure, including the **Allentown Bridge**, which is **Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete**.~~
- Provide funding for the full replacement of the Tukwila Community Center's heating and air cooling system, which is functionally obsolete and impedes the City's ability to provide full programming and meet critical safety-net needs during extreme winter events.
- Create **stable, reliable infrastructure assistance funding** for cities to assist in repairing roads, bridges and other public infrastructure that support economic development.
- Honor funding commitments made in **Move Ahead Washington**.

Housing & Human Services

- **Address the housing stability crisis** by providing additional tools for rental assistance, foreclosure/eviction prevention and capital construction of affordable housing, including starter homes and options for people aging.
- Fund additional investments in behavioral health, including in-patient and out-patient facilities as an alternative to jail and align State law with best practices to allow individuals in crisis to receive necessary and life-saving services.
- We strongly encourage the State to **adequately fund human services** programs for the health of the safety net.

Advancing Equity

- Develop and implement a **racial equity toolkit** for legislation, policies and programs to advance racial equity in Washington.
- **Ensure affordable, high-quality broadband internet access as defined by SB 5717** is available to all households and businesses to provide educational, entrepreneurial, business and accessibility equity for all Washingtonians to access the internet.
- Enact a **financial inclusion law** that will address the public safety and equal access issues caused by bank de-risking.

Law Enforcement Use of Force

- Respond to the Blake decision by revising the current system so that it can be more effectively administered within and across jurisdictions.
- Clarify the **ability for law enforcement to conduct vehicle pursuits** using a reasonable suspicions standard in specific circumstances when there is an immediate threat to public safety.

~~Shared Revenue~~

- ~~• **Include local governments in any new statewide revenues** to ensure the long-term health of municipalities.~~
- ~~• The State must continue its role as a **partner with cities**, including reinstating funding for the Public Works Assistance Account and Community Economic Revitalization Board.~~

Revenue Reform

- Allow cities the **authority and flexibility** to address the fact that growth in the cost of services continue to outstrip revenues.

- The state should **amend the law** that limits annual property tax growth to 1 percent and work with cities to authorize additional funding flexibility and opportunities at the local level.

Education

- Implement **needs-based funding** for allocation of social emotional student support resources and **expand funding for learning opportunities** for summer school students.
- Increase **funding for homeless students** and secondary ELL students.
- Incorporate early learning for low-income students as a part of **Basic Education**.
- ~~Improve language access for non-English speaking families in school settings and build career pathways for multi-lingual students to leverage interpretation and translation skills.~~

Preserve Lodging Tax Flexibility

- Ensure the definition of “tourist” in Washington State **remains flexible** to allow jurisdictions and Lodging Tax Advisory Committees to distribute lodging tax dollars in a manner that **best serves each individual community**.

Preparing for Our Future

- Enact policies to prepare to **combat climate change**, including adequately budgeting for its effects and providing tools to cities to prepare and address the ramifications of flooding, pollution and other key factors.
- Continue to invest in **workforce education and job training** to ensure Washingtonians have access to high-quality career and technical education opportunities.
- Support a permanent policy **that allows greater flexibility for local governments** to hold virtual meetings without a physical location.

Law Enforcement Use of Force

- ~~Support clarification of the civil standards for use of force requirements so law enforcement can better understand the state requirements and know when they can use force to intervene in a situation, including a mental health crisis where a crime is not being committed.~~